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Saudis determined to restrict number of Iranians

Strict security planned for haj

CAIRO, May 21. (Agencies): Saudi Arabia's Interior Minister, Prince Nayef Bin Abdel Aziz, arriving today for a four-day official visit, said his government planned strict security precautions for the pilgrimage season in July.

Nayef also said Saudi Arabia was determined to enforce its decision to restrict the number of Iranian pilgrims to 45,000 this year.

Asked about security measures for the pilgrimage season, Nayef said: "Measures have been in force for preserving security and the pilgrimage. As a result of the current circumstances, the measures will be even more strict."

Decision

Saudi Arabia broke off diplomatic relations with Iran in April.

During last year's pilgrimage season, more than 400 people were killed in clashes between the Iranians and Saudi security forces.

To prevent a recurrence, Saudi Arabia has set quotas for the number of pilgrims it will admit this year from other Muslim countries — 1,000 pilgrims for every million people.

Nayef also was asked about declarations by Iranian officials that the Saudi decision to restrict



Nayef, quota

the number of Iranian pilgrims would not be respected.

"Whether Iran needs this decision or not is not important," Nayef replied. "What is important is that this decision was taken and the kingdom will not receive more than 45,000 Iranian pilgrims this year."

Nayef said earlier this month that any political demonstrations during haj this year would be met with force.

Egyptian Interior Minister Zaki Badr, who welcomed Nayef, said cooperation between the two countries in the field of

security was "gaining in strength day after day."

Nayef, making his first visit since Saudi Arabia restored diplomatic relations with Cairo last November, said he planned to discuss greater cooperation in the field of security with Egyptian officials.

Nayef, accompanied by several high-ranking officials, was visiting Cairo at the invitation of Zaki Badr.

"Their talks will cover the coordination of security aspects of the two countries," Mohammed Hanai, Charge d'Affaires at the Egyptian embassy in Saudi Arabia said.

Meetings

The Saudi minister was also scheduled to meet Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Prime Minister Ataf Sidki.

Saudi Arabia restored relations with Cairo, along with most Arab countries, following an emergency Arab summit conference in Amman, Jordan, last November.

Relations were ruptured after Egypt became the first Arab country to sign a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

Diplomatic sources said that Nayef was expected to pave the way for a visit to Cairo by King Fahd, possibly before the Arab summit in Algiers scheduled for June 7.



A Shiite militiaman runs for cover after he was shot in the stomach during fighting in Beirut's southern suburbs. (Reuters wirephoto)

Two hijackers of Kuwaiti airliner killed in Beirut

BEIRUT, May 21. (Agencies): Two pro-Iranian Lebanese Shiite men believed to have taken part in the hijacking of a Kuwaiti airliner were killed in fighting in Beirut's southern suburbs, senior Muslim security sources said today.

They said Kasim Zain Al Dine and Fouad Kashman, members of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah militia, were killed fighting pro-Syrian Amal guerrillas last Monday.

"The two were among four of the hijackers known to have returned to the suburbs earlier this month. All of them took part in the fighting in the suburbs," another source said.

Nine hijackers seized a Kuwaiti Boeing 747 with 112 people on board on April 5 in an attempt to force Kuwait to release 17 Arabs jailed for bomb attacks in 1983. Kuwait refused.

Demands

After stops in Mashhad, Iran, and Larnaca, Cyprus, where two Kuwaiti hostages were shot dead, the plane flew to Algiers, where the remaining hostages were released on April 20 and the hijackers allowed to go free.

The hijackers' demands were the same as those made by the kidnappers of American and French hostages in Beirut.

The Muslim sources said the kidnappers and hijackers were members of the same Hezbollah clan that uses the name Islamic Jihad. Hezbollah has consistently denied any links with the group.

A Kuwaiti daily said Kasim and Fouad were killed with 10 other Shiites in fighting near the Bouj El Barajneh Palestinian refugee camp.

Fouad's mother was also

killed in the Beirut fighting, the paper said.

The daily said that two "professional kidnappers," Mustafa Shebadeh and Essam Al Sabe, were wounded in the Beirut fighting and have been hospitalized in the Bir El-Abed district.

Hezbollah and the Amal militia have been fighting in south Beirut for control of the area since May 6. Lebanese police have reported more than 250 people killed in the fierce street battles.

Talks

Shiite factions have been responsible for kidnapping most of the 79 foreigners grabbed in Lebanon since 1984. Eighteen, including nine Americans, are still captives, most of them believed to be held in south Beirut.

In a separate conflict, police said rival Palestinian commandos observed a ceasefire in the nearby refugee camps of Shatila and Bourj El Barajneh after five people were killed and 45 wounded.

The truce was reached after Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction, the main group in the Palestine Liberation Organisation, dislodged followers of Col Saeed Mousa's Fatah-Uprising from most of their positions in the camps.

Efforts to contain the Shiite fighting shifted to the Syrian capital of Damascus where Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Mohammed Besharat delivered a message to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad from Iran's President, Ali Khamenei on the situation in south Beirut.

Syria's official media, reporting last night's meeting, did not disclose the contents.

Fare on Kuwait-India sector

Airlines decide to sell cut-price tickets

By Fathima Ahmed

THREE major airlines, which had suspended discounts last month on the Kuwait-India sector, yesterday reversed their decision and began selling cut-price tickets. This ended a month-long price hike war between the airlines, Civil Aviation Department and passengers.

The airlines are: Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC), British Airways (BA) and Air India (AI). They had signed an agreement on April 28 to impose IATA fare levels, suspending discounts.

Kuwait Airways led the other two airlines in reverting to discounted fares on the Kuwait-India sector.

Air India and British Airways also reversed their decision and went back to discounts, according to travel agents. Though Air India announced the decision to hike fares, they did not announce the reversal.

Offer

KAC's regional manager Abdulrazzak Al Ateeqi told the Arab Times: "Yes, we are offering cut-price tickets. I confirm that Kuwait Airways, Air India and all other carriers operating to Kuwait are going back to previous fare levels."

A travel agent confirmed this. Alexander V.K. of Al Badr Travels said: "We received a call Saturday morning from KAC's sales representative Ziad Al Samady telling us to cancel IATA fares on the Kuwait-India sector. This was followed by a phone-in instructions from an Air-India official."

Other travel agents also received instructions by telephone to sell tickets at a discount, as before, implying discounting was allowed.

Air-India received a telex from KAC cancelling full IATA fare levels, reliable sources said.

Al and BA officials declined to comment.

BA sales manager Ralph Collins said: "I have no comment."

AI manager P.R. Kanga said: "Any announcement on air fares must come from the national carrier, KAC. However, passengers can plan ahead and fly AI."

Al Ateeqi declined to comment on the reasons for reversing their decision. He said: "Actually there were many reasons for implementing IATA fares." But he refused to elaborate.

Earlier, Al Ateeqi had said IATA fares were being imposed to "stabilise the market and clean up the mess."

Pressure

The airlines were under pressure both from the public, particularly Indian, and the Civil Aviation Department — which had categorically ruled out any fare hike — to change their decision and revert to pre-agreement discounted fares.

Air-India was singled out and blamed for raising fares. Airlines sources said the agreement was made, in principle, last year by BA, AI and KAC to impose IATA published fares on the lucrative Kuwait-India sector. It was signed by the three airlines on April 28 this year.

Airline sources said the agreement backfired because of the "mistimed" announcement by one airline, particularly at a time when the government temporarily suspended flights to the Asian sector. Apparently, the airlines had planned to "implement the agreement quietly." IATA fares

had been effective from May 15.

Asked why Air-India did not break away from an unpopular agreement, AI official, who wishes to remain anonymous, said that the airline "could not break the agreement unilaterally, without both BA and KAC also doing the same."

Kuwait Airways, being the national carrier, had to take the first step. The KAC decision was lauded by members of the action committee, formed by Indians, to fight the air fare hike. Said one member: "We appreciate KAC's move to reverse their earlier decision."

Shift

However, it is not clear what role the action committee played in reversing the airlines' decision because they did not reveal the proceedings of a meeting held by them with the Indian Ambassador, N. N. Jha, and Kanga on May 16.

As soon as Indian passengers knew that discounts were in effect, they shifted loyalties and re-booked their flights on their own carrier. Earlier, business on the Kuwait-India sector went mostly to Air Lanka and Emirates Airways.

Air-India's decision to be a party to the price-hike agreement irked Indians because of the "inconvenience" of flying other airlines, which do not guarantee domestic connections in India.

There are over 100,000 Indians in Kuwait, about 95 per cent are fixed-income earners and would have been hit hard by the hike fares.

Travel agents, when asked about the possibility of imposition of full fares in the near future, said: "There may not be a hike for a long time to come."

Palestinian memorandum

CAIRO, May 21. (UPI): The leadership of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories will present the US-Soviet summit in Moscow with a memorandum asking for international protection against Israeli suppression, the Middle East News Agency said today.

Quoting an informed Palestinian source in a Cairo-dated dispatch, the agency said the memorandum will be signed by a million Palestinians residing inside and outside the occupied lands.

The memorandum will call the Palestine Liberation Organisation their sole, legitimate representative and urge its independent participation in the proposed international conference on Middle East peace, the agency said.

Meanwhile, Israeli soldiers shot and wounded two Palestinian teenagers today during a general strike that closed businesses.

US Secretary of State, George Shultz, preparing for his third Middle East shuttle this year, called on Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhak Shamir, to accept an international peace conference and be ready to yield territory for peace.

Shultz said: "The agenda, as we see it, has to be territory for peace ... If you say no ... then there is no Arab partner that wants to come and negotiate, because they say, what is there to negotiate."

Preserving blood for self

ABDUL Aziz Basheer, the director of Kuwait's Blood Bank, has announced that those who wish to preserve blood for their own use would be able to do so under a system which allows blood to be kept at the bank for a period of two years at a charge of KD20 per year.

He added that the bank had been approved for membership of the US Blood Transfusion Services Establishment following an inspection by a team of American specialists.

Basheer said that the department plans to develop a special section for blood transfusion research in cooperation with Kuwait University and neighbouring Arab countries.

Thousands of Hindus flee from Punjab

CHANDIGARH, India, May 21. (Reuters): Thousands of panic-stricken Hindu migrant labourers packed Punjab railway stations as they fled a wave of killings by Sikh separatists, witnesses said today.

The separatists, fighting for an independent homeland in the northern state, have killed at least 55 Hindu labourers in attacks to avenge a paramilitary siege of their holiest shrine, the Golden Temple in Amritsar city.

About 155 people have been killed in a bloody campaign for what the separatists call Khalistan (land of the pure) since Wednesday, when the Golden Temple siege ended with the surrender of 46 militants.

Nine.

In the latest killings, Sikh extremists burst into a farmhouse in the village of Gujral near Amritsar, today.

Police said the extremists, using AK-47 assault rifles, shot dead nine labourers, who had come from Uttar Pradesh state to work on a canal project.

The workers are part of a total

force of nearly 800,000 Hindus who come to Punjab every year from nearby states to work on construction projects and farms.

The extremists appear to be following a strategy of scaring Hindus out of Punjab and creating an anti-Sikh backlash elsewhere in India to force Sikhs to return to the country's breadbasket state.

Protection

Police trying to stem the exodus of Hindu workers have promised them greater protection from attacks by militant Sikhs.

"We are trying to persuade them not to go and to give them security," Punjab police chief K.P.S. Gill said.

Gill said most of the attacks on Hindus had occurred in the central and southern parts of the state and that thousands were fleeing in panic.

If necessary, Hindu workers in those areas would be taken to camps where they could be protected more easily than in the countryside, he said.

Mitterrand begins second term

PARIS, May 21. (AP): President Francois Mitterrand, 71, began his second seven-year term today, promising to try to unite socialists and non-socialists behind his policies.

Speaking during a 20-minute inauguration ceremony, Mitterrand said his May 8 re-election, in which he defeated conservative Jacques Chirac, who then resigned as premier, "was not the good ones winning over the bad ones, nor the other way around."

He called on French people to work together "so that the principle of hope might triumph over the compulsions of fear and confrontation."

Mitterrand has called legislative elections for June 5, with runoff June 12, in which Socialists backing new Premier, Michel Rocard, are expected to win a large majority in the 577-seat National Assembly.

Walters arriving in Kuwait today

THE US ambassador to the United Nations, Vernon Walters, will arrive in Kuwait this afternoon on a day's visit for talks with top Kuwaiti officials.

Walters, who is arriving from Baghdad, is currently on a Mideast and Gulf tour.

Walters will hold talks tomorrow with HH the Amir, HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister and the undersecretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Hostages

Walters yesterday arrived in Baghdad from Damascus, where he held talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

Walters, yesterday discussed efforts to release foreign hostages in Lebanon with Assad.

"I am leaving Damascus very pleased with the talks," Walters, told reporters after a three-hour meeting with Assad.

"I feel it was a useful conversation from my side and hope it was useful from the President's side."

Brief

Some of the 18 foreign hostages, who include nine Americans, are held by pro-Iranian militants in Beirut's southern suburbs.

Asked if he was now more

hopeful for the release of the hostages, Walters said: "I am hopeful that whatever decision is made on this matter it will be useful. I think the President feels a humanitarian concern for the hostages and I hope things will work out well."

Walters said he was visiting all Arab countries except North and South Yemen to brief leaders on issues to be raised at the UN General Assembly session starting in September.

In Baghdad, Walters immediately went into discussion with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

Princess released

ADDIS ABABA, May 21. (AP): The Ethiopian government today released the daughter, four granddaughters and two daughter-in-laws of the late Emperor Haile Selassie after more than 13 years of detention.

They are good looking women and they walked out without anyone's help," said an East bloc journalist based in Addis Ababa who witnessed the release.

He said the women were met by relatives in a tearful reunion in the courtyard of the police headquarters.

Iraq denies chemical bomb raid

Iran planning a major offensive

MANAMA, Bahrain, May 21. (Agencies): Iraq today rejected as "false" Iranian accusations it killed 230 people in chemical attacks inside Iran this week, and diplomats warned that Tehran is preparing to launch a major land offensive against Iraq next month.

"The Iranian accusations are false," a military spokesman in Baghdad, commenting on the Iranian chemical attack charges, said.

The Tehran radio said at least 230 civilians were killed this week in Iraqi chemical bombing raids "inside Iran."

Gulf-based diplomats warned that Iran was preparing to launch a major offensive against Iraq next month to repair damaged morale after a series of recent military defeats at the

hands of both Iraq and the United States.

"Iran's ruling clergy rely a great deal on enthusiasm for the war to stay in power," one envoy said.

"Intelligence reports the Iranians are preparing for a new offensive make sense within that context," he said.

Salvage workers recovered the wreckage of a downed US helicopter gunship from the Gulf today and put it aboard a salvage tugboat, where investigators will examine it for crash clues.

The Marine Corps AH-1 Cobra, which vanished on April 18, hours after day-long clashes between US and Iranian naval forces, was in three large pieces when lifted out of 130 feet (40 metres) of water off the United Arab Emirates coast.

INSIDE

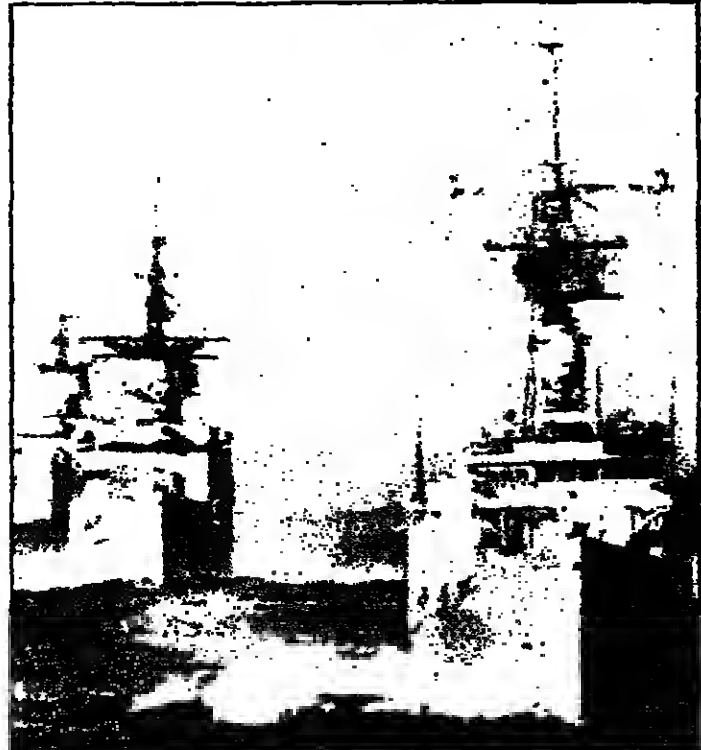
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- بھارت کے لئے فضائی
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- قیلولہ واپس لے لیا گیا
- کویتی طیارے کے دو ہائی
- بحیرہ عرب میں ہلاک ہو گئے
- دہشت گردوں کے خوف
- سے ہندوستان نے پنجاب چھوڑا
- شروع کر دیا
- مقبوضہ علاقوں میں
- مظاہرین اور اسرائیلی فوجیوں
- میں تصادم
- افغان صدر آئندہ ماہ
- امریکہ جائیں گے
- سری لنکا میں چھاپے ماروں
- نے افغانوں کو گولی مار دی

WEATHER

HOT summer weather with moderate northwesterly wind which may freshen at times.
State of sea: moderate
High water: 3.30 am, 3.00 pm
Low water: 10.00 am, 10.00 pm
Sunrise: 4.52 am
Sunset: 6.37 pm
Maximum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 44°C (111°F)
Ahmad: 41°C (106°F)
Faiyaka: 42°C (108°F)
Minimum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 26°C (79°F)
Ahmad: 31°C (88°F)
Faiyaka: 29°C (84°F)
Maximum temperature expected:
Kuwait: 45°C (113°F)
Ahmad: 41°C (106°F)
Faiyaka: 43°C (109°F)
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 24 per cent
Ahmad: 21 per cent
Faiyaka: 35 per cent
Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 50 per cent
Ahmad: 35 per cent
Faiyaka: 45 per cent



US frigates John H. Stoen, (in front) Pharris, (centre) and Elmer Montgomery sail in the southern Gulf. (Reuters wirephoto)

مکرمین الفضل

Soviets accuse Pakistan of violating Geneva agreement

MOSCOW, May 21. (AP): The Soviet Foreign Ministry has accused Pakistan of shipping arms and military hardware to Afghan rebels in violation of the Geneva agreement under which Soviet soldiers are leaving the war-torn country.

The official news agency Tass said Foreign Ministry officials told a correspondent that Pakistan was not honouring the April 14 Geneva agreement that prohibits it from assisting Afghan anti-government forces.

In a separate commentary, Tass criticised Pakistani State Minister for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani and claimed his country was instigating military action by the rebels.

Interference

According to Soviet media reports, the Afghan Foreign Ministry has complained twice this week to UN observers that Pakistan is helping arm the Afghan rebels.

Soviet Foreign Ministry officials said "the shipping of arms and ammunition from Pakistan into the territory of the Republic of Afghanistan is an obvious violation of Geneva

agreements which entered into force on May 5," Tass reported.

Terms of the Geneva agreement mean Pakistan "should discontinue the entire range of actions and activities to interfere in the affairs of Afghanistan," it said.

Soviet soldiers began withdrawing May 15 and the first convoy to leave Afghanistan crossed the border Wednesday. According to the agreement, all of the estimated 115,000 Soviet soldiers must be withdrawn within nine months.

The agreement also allows the United States and the Soviet Union to maintain "symmetry" in supplies to the Afghan rebels and the Soviet-backed government.

Instigation

In its commentary, Tass said Noorani promised Soviet officials on his recent trip to Moscow that his country would abide by the Geneva agreement. But he said upon his return home Thursday that Pakistan would continue to help the United States and the rebels.

"These pronouncements can

only be assessed as an outright instigation of the forces hostile to Kabul to the intensification of the struggle against the lawful government," as a direct interference in the internal affairs of a neighbouring state," commented Valery Vavilov said.

The Afghan peace process requires strict observance of all its terms, and "any deviations, and 'free' and 'broad' interpretations of separate articles and clauses of the accords are intolerable," he said.

He quoted Western press reports as saying unprecedented arms shipments were en route to the border of Pakistan and Afghanistan, where the Afghan insurgents have their bases.

UN group

The United Nations has deployed 50 unarmed soldiers to monitor the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, apparently counting on goodwill and the prestige of the world body to let them carry out their mission.

Known by the jawbreaking acronym Ungompa - the United Nations Good Offices

Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan - the UN troops began this past week to monitor the nine-month withdrawal process. They are to remain for 11 months overall to investigate problems and complaints over the pull-back of some 115,000 Soviet soldiers.

The troops, from Austria, Canada, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, Ghana, Ireland, Nepal, Poland and Sweden, are drawn from some of the 9,500 UN peacekeeping soldiers now assigned to trouble spots throughout the world. UN soldiers have worked from the snows of Kashmir and the deserts of the Middle East to the Green Line dividing hostile communities on Cyprus, and now their jeeps may travel the Kyber Pass.

Some observers call the new West Asian mission a significant symbolic presence.

Others call it a "mission impossible," a weak, helpless force in a potentially chaotic situation. They ask whether, in view of the vast numbers of people involved and continuing hostilities, if "good offices" are enough.

Bangladeshi non-Muslims oppose Ershad

DHAKA, May 21. (AP): Hindus, Christians and Buddhists in the port city of Chittagong have formed a committee to oppose President Hussain Muhammad Ershad's plans to make Islam the state religion, newspapers reported today.

The newspapers, including the independent New Nation, said the committee is pleading for the restoration of Bangladesh's 1972 secular constitution.

Ninety per cent of Bangladesh's 105 million people are Muslims.

Ershad's government introduced a constitutional amendment on May 11 to make Islam the state religion. No date has been set for a vote, but the measure is expected to pass since Ershad's Jatiya Party holds 251 of parliament's 300 seats.

A senior Jatiya Party leader, speaking on condition of anonymity, said today the government has no plans to rewrite Bangladesh's laws to introduce Sharia, an Islamic system of law.

Sharia, as applied by Iran's fundamentalist Islamic leaders and in conservative Muslim states such as Saudi Arabia, has been used to invoke the death sentences for adulterers and amputation of a hand for habitual thieves.

Soviet-Israeli differences remain unresolved

Peace process still alive: Peres

TEL AVIV, May 21. (AP): Foreign Minister Shimon Peres returned to Israel from a three-nation tour saying the peace process was still alive but problems with the Soviet Union remained unresolved.

Israel Radio meanwhile, reported that President Chaim Herzog has reduced the sentences of the three members of the Jewish underground from life imprisonment to 15 years.

The three, Menachem Livni, Shaul Nir and Uzi Sharbat were convicted of killing three Palestinians and wounding 33 in a gun and grenade attack at the Hebron Islamic College in 1983.

The three were among 25 Jews arrested in 1984 and charged with planning or carrying out

attacks against Arab targets.

During his 13-day trip, Peres visited Hungary, the United States and Spain, where he attended the Socialist International. In Madrid and Washington, Peres met with key Soviet officials including Moscow's Ambassador to the United States, Anatoly Dubinin.

Differences

In an interview at Ben Gurion international airport, Peres told the Associated Press the Soviet Union had agreed during his meetings to an international Middle East peace conference which would not have the power to impose an agreement on the parties.

But Peres said other differences

remained. "The argument with the Soviet Union has not reached a conclusion," he said.

One major disagreement concerns Moscow's insistence on Palestinians being allowed self-determination. Peres, as well as Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, reject the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Peres said he tried to improve Israel's image abroad during his travels.

"Our situation is very difficult, especially with the Socialist International and the European Economic Community," Peres said. "I tried to present a balanced picture of Israel in front of the world."

Sri Lankan marxists kill three

COLOMBO, May 21. (Reuters): Marxist gunmen trying to disrupt elections tied two suspected police informers to a tree and killed them, shot at a candidate and killed a postman's wife while stealing polling cards, military officials said today.

The Marxist People's Liberation Front (JVP), which opposes an Indian-Sri Lanka pact to end a Tamil revolt in North and East Sri Lanka, was also blamed for

Friday's assassination of a senior official in President Junius Jayewardene's United National Party.

Two men shot Nandana Fernando, who holds an administrative post as party secretary-general in Colombo, in what political observers feared could be the start of a bloody run-up to the provincial council elections, a part of the pact.

Police said that on Thursday they raided a JVP safehouse in the northern outskirts of the capital Colombo and seized many explosive devices. One suspected JVP member was arrested.

The security officials said members of the JVP tied to a tree two suspected police informers and shot them on Thursday at Hakmana in the southern district Matara.



Hundreds of riot police use clubs and shields to battle demonstrators in central Taipei. (Reuters wirephoto)

British MPs line up to hear sex romp

LONDON, May 21. (Reuters): Astonished politicians lined up to listen to a sex romp in a House of Commons shower room between an honourable member and a naked woman. Curious MPs slipped away from a dull debate on European Economic Community finances as word rippled through the mother of parliaments that more interesting frolics were going on in the men's changing rooms.

Several said they saw the amorous couple but no-one was prepared to name the middle-aged member involved. The woman, described as equally mature in years, was not identified either.

After a day of titillating tales and speculation, Labour opposition MP Ron Brown on Friday denied rumours coursing through Westminster that he was the culprit.

Brown, who was suspended from the House for 20 days for throwing down the ceremonial mace in an incident last month, said: "I am guilty of many things including dropping the mace. But I am not guilty of dropping my trousers in the Commons changing rooms. I am sure that most women would run a mile if they saw me like that."

The rebellious Scottish left-winger told reporters: "I can assure you that at my age, 47, I have sex weekly, very weakly according to my wife."

Details of the incident bubbled to the surface on Friday with a London evening Standard newspaper report citing another MP's account of what he saw.

Taiwan protesters battle riot police

TAIPEI, May 21. (Reuters): More than 200 people were injured and scores arrested during pitched battles between riot police and rock-throwing demonstrators in Taiwan, police said today.

Witnesses said riot police last night chased hundreds of demonstrators through the streets of Taipei, lashing out with fists and clubs, after protesters stormed parliament.

Many cars were burned and an angry crowd set fire to the central post office.

It was the worst violence since 1949, when the Nationalist government retreated to Taiwan from China after losing a civil war against the communists.

Officers from the elite "Thunder Squad" grabbed demonstrators and hauled them to the steps of a police station in central Taipei where they were surrounded and beaten by plainclothes police, one witness said.

Taiwan's most prominent opposition politician, Chu Kao-

Cheng, was rushed to hospital after he was punched and kicked to the ground.

Several officers were injured when a car ploughed through ranks of riot police armed with shields and staves and backed by water-cannon.

Demonstrators blocked railway tracks around Taipei's main train station with blazing trucks and cars.

Street battles erupted on Friday after farmers, protesting against agricultural policy, tried to storm into parliament using rocks and wooden poles.

Three thousand farmers from across the island were joined by Taipei residents and members of the opposition Democratic Progress Party. They ripped up paving stones around parliament and hurled them through windows.

Later, the protesters were trapped in a police cordon and sprayed with powerful jets of water.

Wrong salt kills two

BEIJING, May 21. (UPI): Two young sisters in northeastern China died when their family mistook deadly acid salt for table salt and used it in cooking, the official Xinhua news agency said today.

The two girls died at a north-eastern Henan province hospital. The girls' grandfather, who took the salt from a nearby construction site, mistaking it for ordinary table salt.

The report did not say when the incident occurred.

nauseous, had difficulty breathing and developed blisters on their skin and lips 10 minutes after consuming the poisoned food.

The two girls died at a north-eastern Henan province hospital.

The agency said Li Yongchao, the girls' grandfather, took the salt from a nearby construction site, mistaking it for ordinary table salt.

The report did not say when the incident occurred.

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| Bingo | Day | 8 |
| 5 | 39 | 86 |
| | | 29 |

Woman kills one boy in school rampage

WINNETKA, Illinois, May 21. (Reuters): A woman killed a child and wounded five others in a school shooting after trying to burn down another school and firebombing the home of a family where she worked as a babysitter, officials said.

FBI agents were hunting the woman, Laurie Dann, 30, when she walked into an elementary school and opened fire after telling a classroom of second grade pupils: "I'm going to teach you about life."

Red-haired Dann shot herself dead on Friday after barricading herself in a house in this wealthy Chicago suburb and wounding a 20-year-old man who tried to disarm her.

Most of the victims of her shooting rampage were in critical condition at two hospitals but doctors said they were expected to live.

Nicholas Corwin, 8, died of a chest wound in the classroom at Hubbard Woods School where Dann went on her rampage.

Winnetka police chief Herbert Timm said Federal Bureau of Investigation agents were hunting Dann at the time of the shooting for making telephone death threats and were aware that she had a permit to carry a heavy-calibre pistol.

"They couldn't locate her," he said.

She was also involved in an icepick attack on her husband during their brief marriage and had been arrested for shoplifting, police said.

Timm, one of the first in the classroom after the shooting, said: "It was bedlam. We had one fatality in the room and several children were still laying there."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Party leader sacked

MOSCOW, May 21. (Reuters): Azerbaijani Communist Party leader Kyanran Bagirov was sacked today in a move which appeared linked to ethnic unrest in the southern Soviet republic.

The official Tass news agency said Bagirov was replaced by Abdul Vezirov, a former Soviet consul in India and ambassador to Nepal and Pakistan with experience in party administration.

Soldier killed

BELFAST, May 21. (AP): A British soldier and his dog were killed by a bomb blast today while searching for explosives near the Irish border, police said. The outlawed Irish Republican Army claimed responsibility for the killing.

The soldier, a dog handler, was leading a search patrol in the county of South Armagh, where a 1,400-pound (635-kg) IRA bomb was discovered on Thursday.

Hassan visits US

AMMAN, May 21. (Reuters): Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan left for the United States today at the head of the biggest Jordanian trade delegation ever to visit America, the official news agency Petra reported.

The trade team is due to attend trade and investment seminars in Atlanta, Georgia, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Prisoners freed

SEOUL, May 21. (UPI): The government freed 1,013 ordinary prisoners today in an amnesty marking the upcoming Buddha's birthday, which is a national holiday. Political prisoners were not among those released.

Opposition parties and dissident groups have been demanding that all prisoners being held for political reasons be set free and that their civil rights be reinstated.

Five killed

HARARE, May 21. (AP): At least five people were killed and 50 injured when a freight train ploughed into a passenger bus at a rail crossing on a main highway, police and hospital officials said today.

The bus had apparently stalled on the crossing about 40 miles (64 kms) southeast of Harare yesterday when the locomotive smashed into it.

Brown's wife held

AUGUSTA, Georgia, May 21. (AP): The wife of soul singer James Brown was arrested on drug charges one day after her husband was released from jail on similar charges.

Adrienne Brown, 38, was arrested Friday upon her arrival at Bush Field airport in Augusta by police acting on a tip, said Ron Maher of the Augusta police vice and narcotics unit.

Troops kill 73

LUSAKA, May 21. (AP): Zambia today reported for the first time that its troops had mounted a hot-pursuit operation against Mozambique rebels, killing 73 of a gang that massacred eight Zambians in a border village.

Nurses' strike

COLOMBO, May 21. (Reuters): A two-day strike by 750 government doctors, 4,000 nurses and 10,000 hospital workers continued today to cripple nine Sri Lankan hospitals.

The strikers are officially on sick leave.

Only the seriously ill are being treated in the nine hospitals and patients seeking out-patient treatment are being told to go elsewhere.

Ritual killings

LAGOS, May 21. (AP): A dusk-to-dawn curfew has been imposed in Kwara state to halt ritual killings, the news agency of Nigeria reported. Nigerian Radio said 16 women have been killed.

The government radio said the killings began three years ago, and that organs of the victims were being used to make charms their owners believed would make them rich.

Bomb blasts

PIREAS, Greece, May 21. (Reuters): Bomb blasts wrecked a police station, a discotheque, and a bar in this port city today, a police spokesman said. There were no injuries.

A left-wing guerrilla group claimed responsibility for the blasts at the police station and a nearby discotheque, saying they were aimed at the local "centres of the narcotics trade."

US envoy to Israel

WASHINGTON, May 21. (Reuters): President Reagan intends to nominate career diplomat William Brown as US ambassador to Israel, succeeding Thomas Pickering, the White House announced yesterday. Brown, 57, is serving as US ambassador to Thailand.

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Woman kills one boy in school rampage

WINNETKA, Illinois, May 21. (Reuters): A woman killed a child and wounded five others in a school shooting after trying to burn down another school and firebombing the home of a family where she worked as a babysitter, officials said.

FBI agents were hunting the woman, Laurie Dann, 30, when she walked into an elementary school and opened fire after telling a classroom of second grade pupils: "I'm going to teach you about life."

Red-haired Dann shot herself dead on Friday after barricading herself in a house in this wealthy Chicago suburb and wounding a 20-year-old man who tried to disarm her.

Most of the victims of her shooting rampage were in critical condition at two hospitals but doctors said they were expected to live.

Nicholas Corwin, 8, died of a chest wound in the classroom at Hubbard Woods School where Dann went on her rampage.

Winnetka police chief Herbert Timm said Federal Bureau of Investigation agents were hunting Dann at the time of the shooting for making telephone death threats and were aware that she had a permit to carry a heavy-calibre pistol.

"They couldn't locate her," he said.

She was also involved in an icepick attack on her husband during their brief marriage and had been arrested for shoplifting, police said.

Timm, one of the first in the classroom after the shooting, said: "It was bedlam. We had one fatality in the room and several children were still laying there."

Municipality not collecting fines from defaulters

A REPORT by the Auditing Bureau indicates Kuwait Municipality is not being enthusiastic in collecting fines due from contractors for delay to completion of government projects.

The report said that according to contractual terms, the contractor is liable to pay a fine for each day of delay after the stipulated date for completion. The report cited the case where the municipality did not collect KD1.5 million on the Water Front Project (first stage) for delaying the completion by 150 days — although, the contractor was given a period of more than 140 days after end of the

stipulated period to complete the project.

The report, further pointed out that the municipality failed to collect KD11,300 from Tanzifco Company which collects garbage and cleans some areas in the country. The fine, was for violating the terms of the contract. The municipality, the report revealed, paid all financial dues to the company without deducting the amount of the fine. The Auditing Bureau, called on the municipality to collect these fines as soon as possible.

The report further indicated, Kuwait Municipality had con-

tracted with a local consultative office to undertake a field study at Said Al Awazem and airport area. As the two areas are prohibited areas and belong to the Kuwait Oil Company, no government projects can be carried out there and permission to allow the municipality to carry out the study was not granted. Consequently, the municipality was obliged to pay KD30,000 to the office that was contracted to carry out the study. The report called on the municipality to obtain prior approval from relevant authorities before contracting with other parties to undertake any future studies.



● Forty five Nrithanjali students, aged between five and 16, recently presented an Indian dance recital at the IAC, Funatees. The dancers, all trained by Girija Radhakrishnan, presented a selection of classical numbers at the IAC, Funatees. Above: some young dancers entertaining the audience



● The students of the Kala Sadan, formed three years ago, last week took part in an 'aragatani', the first dance performance, held at the IAC. The dancers were trained by Shanti Nair, who formed the Kala Sadan, naming it after the well-known institution in Bombay. Above: some dancers pictured after the performance



HH the Amir yesterday received Mohammad Bin Ahmed Abdelghani (second right), the envoy of the Algerian President.

Government keen to upgrade agricultural sector

THE director of Kuwait's Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fisheries Jassem Al Najadah in an interview with a local daily was quoted as saying the sea provided Kuwait with a paramount position among countries of the region.

He said that while the sea provided an access for trade, it also provided the desert inhabitants with their vital needs of food. The government, he said, was striving to set-up the necessary infrastructure to exploit the sea wealth, and to address the problems of the desert.

Al Najadah said the government represented by the Public Authority for Agricultural

Affairs and Fisheries was keen to bridge the gap existing in the local market. He added, the authority had adopted necessary decisions and enacted laws needed to organise and upgrade the agricultural sectors, including, encouraging people involved in this sector to invest their funds by providing them with necessary materials and moral support. Issuance of new licences for farmers had been suspended since the past two years as the authority believed the present number to be sufficient.

Restricted

Al Najadah said there was a union for professional fishermen whose strength was estimated to

be 400 members with 850 fishing boats, 240 wooden ships and 70 steel vessels. The Iran-Iraq war, he said, had caused great losses to the fishermen, as fishing in Kuwait territorial waters was restricted to only the bay area for some specified daily hours.

Confirming the importance of providing a special port to cater to the fishing industry and to protect sailors and ships from sudden adverse weather conditions, he called for a study to be undertaken to find solutions to the problems of fishermen and the fishing trade in particular. This was imperative, he said, as fish provided the much needed proteins and also serve as a source of food security.

Kuwait-Sri Lanka ties strong

THE Sri Lankan Ambassador to Kuwait Abdul Qader Hameed Mohammed has praised the strong ties between Kuwait and Sri Lanka, emphasising the economic and commercial relations.

The ambassador said that about 76,000 Sri Lankans live in Kuwait, with about 62,000 working as maids and servants.

He said that of Sri Lanka's 16 million inhabitants, about one million are Muslim, who live primarily in the eastern part of Sri Lanka. Every Muslim village

has its own mosque, he said, and Muslim holidays are considered official government holidays.

Ambassador Hameed said that special radio programmes are broadcast during Ramadan and that most people fast during Ramadan.

The ambassador requested that Kuwait and other Muslim countries support Muslims in Sri Lanka by sending Islamic teachers and by giving donations to the country.

7,575 to study abroad

SAUD AL TALAB, the Assistant Undersecretary for Scholarships and Computer Centre Affairs at Kuwait's Civil Service Commission, has said that about 7,575 students had been granted permission to study abroad thus far and that 5,835 had been sent abroad for training courses.

Al Talab said that the centre needs to be further developed to meet the needs of the country's

new systems.

He added that the Civil Service Commission was attempting to implement new systems in cooperation with other government authorities. He explained that the CSC was planning to form a committee on the state level to study the development of the computer centre in relation to the employees' registration system.

KAC's plan for Kuwaitisation

AN official source at Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) in an interview with a Kuwaiti daily, was quoted as saying that KAC's five year plan, aimed, among other things, a 100 per cent Kuwaitising of senior posts at the corporation by 1990. The plan envisages encompassing a Kuwaiti workforce to assume 80 per cent of the responsibilities of the supervisory cadre in addition to Kuwaitising 50 per cent of the executive posts.

The source added, that the implementation began in 1985 and in keeping with the guidelines of the plan, took into consideration qualifications, experience and aptitude of prospective Kuwaiti employees.

The second phase included evaluation of employees performance which was a primary stage in the qualifying process toward promotions. The source commented that the opportunities for promotions had increased.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audiences

HH the Amir yesterday received HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sobah.

The Amir also received Algerian State Minister for Presidential Affairs, Mohammad Bin Ahmed Abdelghani, who conveyed to the Amir a message from Algerian President Chodli Ben Jaid.

The message included an invitation to the Amir to attend the extraordinary Arab summit conference which is scheduled to be held in Algiers on June 7.

The meeting was attended by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al Osaimi and Algerian Ambassador to Kuwait.

Amiri cable

HH the Amir yesterday sent a cable of congratulations to Cameroon's President on the occasion of his country's National Day.

Crown Prince audiences

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sobah yesterday received the Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Sobah Al Salem, the Labour and Social Affairs Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed and the Information Minister Shaikh Jobar Mubarak Al Homad.

Sheikh Saad also received the State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed, the Education and Higher Education Minister Anwar Abdullo Al Nouri, Ahmad Governor Sheikh Ali Sobah Al Salem and Kuwaiti Ambassador to Washington Sheikh Saoud Nasser Al Sobah.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Iran's downward trend

A KUWAITI newspaper commented editorially yesterday that economic and social life inside Iran has started a downward trend as a result of the country's diminishing lighting capabilities and recent war setbacks at the hands of Iraq and the US.

The daily Al Rai Al Aam said recent conciliatory gestures from Tehran should not be misconstrued as the start of a new chapter in relations between Iran and the Arabian Gulf cooperation states, as the new Iranian rhetoric has been forced by circumstances.

The paper pointed out that any new military setbacks following Iraq's liberation of the southern Faw peninsula and the devastating American blows on Iranian oil installations in the Gulf would leave the Iranian regime no choice but settling for a negotiated settlement.

The newspaper stressed that Iran had sabotaged many opportunities to correct the course of relations with Arab Gulf states and chose to pursue the eight-year old war against Iraq and keep up attacks on shipping serving ports on the Arabian side of the Gulf.

"All these facts cast a thick shadow of doubt on Iran's sincerity towards forging a new phase in neighbourly relations with GCC states," the paper went on.

Concluding the daily said Iran should stop playing the policeman of the region to show in deed its desire to be a major partner to maintaining peace and stability in the Arabian Gulf area.

Deployment of Syrian troops

A KUWAITI daily yesterday called for a speedy deployment of the Syrian troops in the southern suburb of Beirut to put an end to a nearly 14-day-old clashes between the pro-Iran Hezbollah (Party of God) and Syrian-backed Arab militias.

Al Waton noted, in a front-page editorial, that the Syrian forces should have entered the southern suburb, one of Beirut's most miserable areas, when they deployed in western Beirut last year, affirming that if such a thing have taken place, many lives would have been spared.

The paper commented, "nothing is left but to determine the zero hour so Syrian troops can enter Beirut's demolished suburb, after they were delayed more than they should have to stop the bloodshed."

Al Waton poured its blame for the hostilities on Hezbollah, which the paper said fought fierce battles to hoist the Iranian flag in the heart of an Arab city and get a slice of the Lebanese "cake".

Burns centre to offer most advanced patient care

DR JABBAR KHAZAL, head of the burns and plastic surgery department of Kuwait's Saud Abdul Aziz Al Babtain Centre, has said that the centre, upon completion, will be comparable to the most prestigious world burns centres.

Dr Khazal said the centre would offer the most advanced computer-monitored patient care at a cost per patient of KD 1,800 to be borne by the government.

He added that a skin bank for treatment of burns needing skin grafts would not be included but the centre would graft from close family members instead.

The centre, which will have a 70-bed capacity, will be staffed by specialists of various Arab and non-Arab nationalities.

Dr Khazal urged mothers to be sure that maids knew how to properly use household appliances.

Joint Gulf factory

A NUMBER of Gulf companies engaged in molding aluminium sheets will Tuesday hold a joint meeting to discuss the economic feasibility of establishing a joint Gulf factory for the production of molds.

Aluminium and light metal production companies from Kuwait, Bahrain, UAE, Saudi Arabia and Oman will participate in the meeting.

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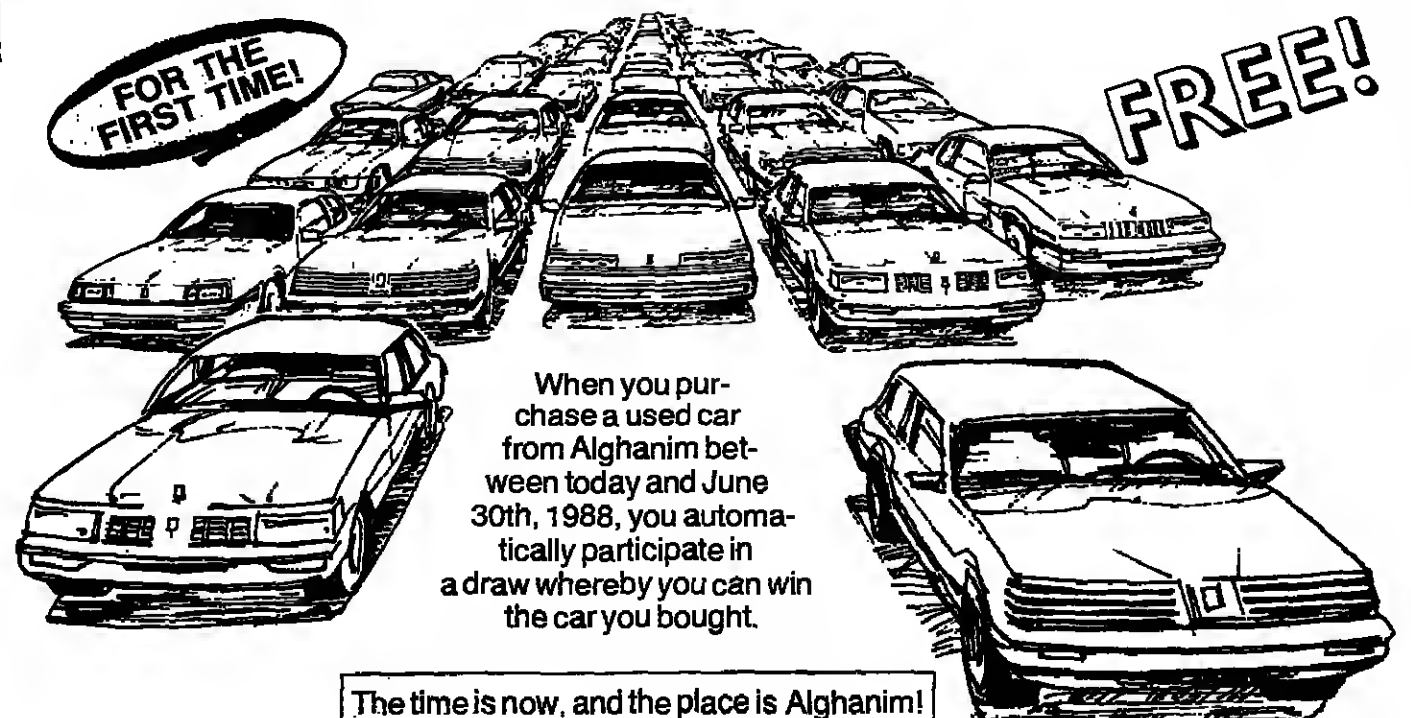
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Shariya in Jahra

Hunt for terrorists' friends

THE daily Al-Sayassah, reported yesterday that Kuwaiti authorities have launched a security dragnet for two close friends of Walid Abdel Nabi Al Mousa, 23, who was killed in a bombing in Kuwait City on Wednesday.

He died with a companion, Nasser Mohammed Ahmed, 22, when a bomb in a car they were driving apparently exploded prematurely near the head office of the Kuwait Airways Corporation.

Al-Sayassah said the two wanted men, identified only as Kuwaitis, flew to Cyprus several times to meet Al Mousa when he was visiting the Mediterranean island earlier this year.

The paper said the two wanted men disappeared following Wednesday's explosion.

The blast was the third in less than a month in downtown Kuwait. The offices of Saudi Arabia's national airline, Saudia, and the US Avis car rental agency have also been bombed.

The paper quoted unidentified sources as saying that investigators believed all three bombings were related.

Kuwait-Egypt ties praised

CAIRO, May 21, (Kuna): Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs Dhari Al Othman was quoted here today, as praising Egyptian-Kuwaiti relations, describing them as developing at all levels.

Al Othman told a correspondent of the Egypt Middle East News Agency in Kuwait, on the eve of his visit to Cairo that his visit aims at increasing cooperation in the legal and judicial fields in the coming stage.

He added that he will visit Egyptian specialised judicial institutions to benefit from their expertise in this field.

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Offer to negotiate with Al Jaberiya hijackers

Sheikh Fahd praises Platini

PARIS, May 21, (Kuna): Chairman of the Asia Olympic Council and Kuwait's Football Association Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad yesterday praised the courage of French football star Michael Platini for proposing to negotiate with the hijackers of the Kuwaiti jumbo jet Al Jaberiya last month to secure the release of the hostages.

He added in a press conference held here yesterday that Platini was one of the few who had this courage to express their opinion toward the hijacking ordeal while others kept silent.

Sheikh Fahd said Platini, former French national soccer star, set an example of a peace lover and thus gained him the respect of the Arab citizens in general and Arab sportsmen in particular.

Dignity

Platini extended an invitation to the ex-hostages to attend the matches that will be held in Naqurah next Monday on the occasion of his retirement, Sheikh Fahd said.

The KFA chief said he is carrying a message from chairman of the Federation of Arab sports games Prince Faisal Bin Fahd to Platini in which the prince praised Platini's courageous stance.



Sheikh Fahd

For his part, Platini refused to comment on the issue "upon request of the French government."

In response to a question over the proposal to switch the Kuwaiti national team by the hostages, Sheikh Fahd said that "we wanted to show the kidnappers that death and fear will not affect our dignity and although we are a small people in number but big in our contribution."

Replying to a question by Kuna over the French-Kuwaiti sport cooperation, Sheikh Fahd

said such meetings that are currently taking place will contribute to boosting athletic activities between the two countries.

He disclosed that a Kuwaiti team and two other Saudis he did not name are undergoing discussions to sign contracts with French coaches and pointed out that he will invite a number of French teams to camp in Kuwait during the off-season next winter.

Sheikh Fahd noted that France has begun to show the world that it has its own soccer world as Brazil, England and West Germany. During the visit of Marseille football team to Kuwait last January, there was a feeling of optimism about further cooperation between us in the future, he recalled.

Speaking on the situation of sports in Kuwait, Sheikh Fahd told the French press that the Kuwaiti national soccer team reached the world championship semifinal in 1982, and won the Asia Cup in spite of its small population, unlike Japan for example which participated in the 1946 World Cup.

A country with 600,000 citizens, Kuwait competed with China, the country with a billion people, Sheikh Fahd added.

Emergency health plan

KUWAIT Minister of Public Health Dr Abdul Razzak Yousef Al Abdul Razzak said in a press statement published yesterday that the Ministry of Public Health has developed an integrated plan to face emergency situations.

Abdul Razzak added in a statement to a Kuwaiti newspaper that his ministry took all necessary measures to deal with any emergency situation through an expert team that works 24 hours a day and in coordination with other government authorities such as the Interior Ministry, fire department and civil defence.

The Public Health Minister urged citizens not to panic in cases of emergency and to cooperate with the officials in dealing with those situations.

He concluded by saying that Kuwait is facing shortages of organs needed for transplant operations, and indicated that the Kuwaiti Organs Transplant Society should do more to solve the problem.

10,000 people give up smoking in Kuwait every year

DR Hussain Al Mumin, head of the schools health department and chairman of the Kuwaiti Society for Prevention of Smoking and Cancer announced yesterday that 10,000 adults quit smoking every year in Kuwait.

However, he said that every year smoking showed an alarming rise among teenagers — especially students. A study conducted by the society, he said, indicated that as high as 36 per cent of schoolboys in the intermediate and secondary stages were habitual smokers in 1986. The first study in 1979, showed the percentage to be 13, increasing to 18 per cent in 1983 and 24 per cent in 1985. The study indicated that students as young as 7 years were included and called on authorities to address the problem on a priority basis.

Banned
Asked on the ways for solving the problem, Dr Al Mumin said that cigarette companies should be banned from advertising.

Cigarette companies who sponsor various sports events, try to make believe that there is a relation between smoking and sports. In some advanced countries, cigarette companies are banned from linking cigarette advertisements with success in life. The "modus operandi" of many cigarette companies, he said, was to attract new smokers to compensate for those who quit by trying to make the younger generation believe that smoking is an important factor in making children "men."

Assistance
Dr Al Mumin added that at its inception, the society was receiving much help and assistance, but, this had declined. The society cooperated with similar Gulf, local and other relevant departments. However, he said, the society has been disappointed by the Ministries of Education, Social Affairs, and Information lack of laws banning smoking in some areas —

especially in schools. He added that all employees at schools including teachers should be banned from smoking in front of students. He urged parents to smoke (if they must) away from their children. Authorities should also ban the sale of cigarettes to persons under 16 years of age. He commented that many successful persons, writers, sportsmen, intellectuals, officials and others, appeared in their press or TV interviews while smoking. This, in the eyes of teenagers, links smoking with success, he said.

He concluded, by saying the society succeeded in establishing a free clinic to help smokers quit the habit. The clinic is the first of its kind in the Middle East. It gets financial help of KD12,000 from the Ministry of Social Affairs. The clinic which opened a few years ago, received 60 smokers a week, however, he said the number presently has dropped to 3 to 4 only.

Educationists differ in their opinions

Switching over to new-style GCSE exams

By Gail Seery

NEXT month the UK switches over to its new-style GCSE examinations. These exams have effectively replaced both 'O' levels and CSE exams. Britain's Department of Education and Science developed the new type of exam in order to provide a single educational system at this level, thus ending the confusion between GCE, CSE and 16 plus exams.

The new system will go some way to forming a bridge between new and old. A, B and C grades at GCSE will be the equivalent of Grades A-C at 'O' level, the old CSE Grade 1 will fall in the A-C category of GCSE, and Grades D to G at GCSE are the direct counterparts of the old CSE grades 2 to 5. However, the main changes will lie in the slant and scope of the courses.

Instead of the entire assessment for two years' work lying with one or more three-hour exams, a proportion of the marks will come from continuous course assessment. Obviously this will suit those students who find the exam situation unnerving or who are sick or otherwise disadvantaged on the exam day.

Again, greater emphasis is placed on practical use of information and on developing problem solving skills among students.

Opposition

As with any major change, there has been a great deal of opposition to the measure in the UK, from teachers and parents alike, particularly as the exam marks a change in overall course content and scope and is geared towards a resources based education.

In Kuwait the four establishments currently offering tuition to 'O' level standard, The New English School, the Kuwait English School, the Gulf English School and the British Council, have been given the option of continuing to teach 'O' levels in the foreseeable future, although it is expected that the various examining boards will gradually phase these out.

Only one institution, the Gulf English School, has opted to go ahead with the new exams whole-

heartedly, and the first GCSE exams will be taken in tandem with 'O' levels by students next month. Students have already been following the GCSE courses for the past two years.

The decision to adopt GCSE by the CES was made some three years ago for a series of reasons. One of the major considerations, according to Robert Sheffield, principal of the school, is that "GCSE provides opportunities for a far greater percentage of the ability range to achieve their potential. We have a moral obligation to ensure that children can succeed at whatever their level."

Disadvantaged

He explained to the Arab Times that the school was also concerned that students returning to the UK would be disadvantaged if they were half way through an obsolete exam system particularly as the approach to education inherent within GCSE was so very different from 'O' levels. Again, there was a very real fear that teachers would be reluctant to leave secure posts in order to teach an obsolete examination course. They would recognise that the opportunity for career enhancement upon their return would be limited.

Not every school agreed that it is right to go straight over to GCSE however. John Mitchell of the Kuwait English School explained that his school would be phasing in the exams with incoming fourth formers in September. 'O' levels would continue to be offered for those who wished to take the established, more conventional exams, but he stressed that as both the content and the approach of the exams were different, this would probably necessitate extra tuition for the 'O' level pupils. The school had decided to allow a slight delay so that problems could be identified and ironed out in good time.

Implemented

Mitchell is certain that the new style exams will be implemented in due course, especially as the examining boards are likely to phase out the O levels altogether eventually. However, he is cer-

tain that there are problems to be solved within GCSE, in such areas as class sizes, and that the school can benefit from the slight delay.

At the other end of the scale are the New English School and the British Council. Mrs Naqib, headmistress at the New English School, felt that not enough notice had been taken of the problems "still existing within GCSE" which she envisages will not be ironed out until 1991. These, she says, are the views of David Haslam, Senior Training Officer and David Harrison, Chief Examiner of History of LEAG (London and East Anglia Group examining board) who were recently in Kuwait on an in-service training programme for teachers, funded partly by the British Council.

This was attended by teachers from Kuwait English School, New English School and British Council staff. Gulf English School declined to participate because they are offering courses within the SEG (Southern Examining Board) and have already embarked on their own in-house training programme.

Syllabus

Although music and art are already GCSE subjects in the New English and Kuwait English Schools, The New English School will go for full GCSE when the teaching problems in the syllabus and the system of assessment are over. The situation is still not well-defined, and the syllabus and assessment system is not clear. Mrs Naqib envisages that the delay will be of benefit to the school. "Our teachers and the teachers in the UK who are also at the moment inexperienced in GCSE, will have acquired the needed expertise in all subjects and will be able to give us the full benefit of that experience."

The British Council teaches around 368 - 400 students for British examinations each year, a number that has been rising steadily as the interest in a British style education grows. They have no opposition to the new system, but cater mainly for private students and at present do not feel confident that there is

adequate provision for those students who are unable to do the coursework component.

Sarwar of the British Council explained that he had been told that a special private student syllabus would be developed which would give students the opportunity to take the coursework component of their work as a second exam. In the meantime, the British Council will continue to provide 'O' level examinations and tuition.

Gradual

All the establishments agree on one thing, best expressed in the words of Mrs Naqib, "We have taken the view that the change over to the new system should be gradual and well prepared for. It should be an exercise in proper planning rather than an instant switch over from one system to another." Any controversy appears to lie in the fact that each school considers that their own approach has been the best.

Although the implication would be that the Gulf English School has rushed into the new 'exam' system prematurely, the fact is confident that this is not so. "Our decision to implement SEG GCSE was taken in consultation with a number of leading Gulf secondary schools." Prior to this, headteachers had attended lectures and in-service training sessions, culminating in a GCSE conference at the Laifia School for Girls in Dubai, where Henry Mackintosh, formerly secretary to the examining board and a team of fifteen advisers organised workshops in all subject areas for senior staff from the participating schools. The Gulf English School also participated in "cascade meetings" to train staff, and new staff joining the school were selected for their "up to date knowledge of the new examination." Again, parents and students had been briefed of the new exams.

Recognition

However, a number of parents had been concerned about university recognition of GCSE. Whereas in Britain university entrance requires good 'A' level grades, many students studying at British style schools will go on to university immediately following their 'O' levels. Kuwait University currently accepts suitable students with five 'O' levels. They have given verbal assurance to the schools concerned that they will accept GCSE, but many parents cited Cairo as a university which may not accept the new exams. However, this appears to be more as a result of that university's desire to upgrade its own entry requirements than through any criticism or condemnation of the new exams.

Sheffield said that he was thoroughly committed to the ideology behind the new exams. "The approach to teaching necessitated by the new system adheres to the principles inherent in DES Curriculum Matters II, the acknowledged document on good educational practice." He added that he felt that these new style exams catered for a greater percentage of students than either O levels or CSE exams.

Final exams start Tuesday

FINAL examinations for Kuwait Secondary School Certificate in Science and Art will begin on Tuesday, May 24.

The Education Ministry Undersecretary Abdul Rahman Al Khodari met with the exam committees of the four educational areas to discuss final preparations for the exams.

An estimated 20,862 students will sit for the final exams, 12,664 for the science section and 8,198 for the arts section.

Woman killed

A 49-YEAR-OLD Kuwaiti woman who lived alone was killed at her Kumaithiya house at dawn yesterday, an Interior Ministry spokesman said.

The woman, identified by the initial S.H. was stabbed to death with a sharp tool, the spokesman said.

Co-ops help consumers with subsidised goods

ABDULLAH Al Mullah, director of supply and consumer protection department at Kuwait's Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour in an interview with a local daily, said that his ministry took extra care in avoiding any inconvenience to citizens and hence the department's inspectors executed their duties diligently.

He commented the cooperation that existed between the ministry and the Cooperative Societies Union, adding, the union had played a significant role in making available necessary subsidised consumer goods. In cooperating with the ministry, the union had provided many consumer goods that carried the mark "Ta'won" (cooperation) at reduced prices. This positive

step, he said, was aimed at alleviating the consumer's financial burden.

Al Mullah said the cooperative societies in cooperation with the union's administration intended to launch an awareness campaign to enlighten the public and encourage them to purchase subsidised consumer goods marked "Ta'won". He urged Cooperative Societies to reduce the "Ta'won" consumer-goods prices so that consumers are convinced there are vast potential benefits in purchasing commodities marked "Al-Ta'won". He suggested that Cooperative Societies Union should undertake to display these commodities so as to appeal to a broader base of consumers.

In conclusion, Al Mullah called for regular meetings between the ministry and cooperative societies to streamline and adopt the latest marketing techniques to benefit customers at large.

Workers union complains lack of due recognition

THE board of directors at Kuwait Fire Department and Kuwait Municipality workers union, in a memo to the Minister of State for Municipal Affairs indicated a "feeling of frustration" for not receiving due recognition and appreciation for their dedicated efforts.

This was attributed to the fact, that despite the national appreciation of the services rendered by firemen and workers and especially cited by HH-the Amir during the fire at Ahmadi gas refinery in May last year — the recommended bonuses were still unpaid so far.

The memo further stated, that 76 firemen were still awaiting their payments and claimed Kuwait Fire Department had not given serious attention to this matter with relevant authorities. The memo urged redress to keep the morale and spirits of the fire-fighting services high.

Municipality closes down restaurants in Ardhiya

THE daily Al-Sayassah, reported on Friday that all restaurants and shops selling foodstuffs in Ardhiya area had been closed by Kuwait Municipality following the outbreak of 100 cases of food poisoning in the area during the Eid Al-Fitr holidays.

Authorities are investigating the cases to try to determine the causes of the poisoning. Medical sources told Al-Sayassah that patients admitted to the Sabah and Farwaniya Hospitals had been discharged and that no deaths had been reported.

Restaurants and cafeterias in the area will remain closed until the Ministry of Public Health completes its investigation.

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Nice play, shame about the sound

THE Hindi play *Undersecretary*, nearly managed to have the audience in stitches. Nearly because apart from those in the front rows, none could hear. The dialogue was barely audible to the majority of over 1,000 Indians who attended the debut venture of the amateur theatrical group, Natya Bharati, presented at the JAC, Funaites, last week.

If only the acoustics had not played truant alternating between silence and deafening noise, the *Undersecretary* would have been a fine comedy. When the sound system worked, the nine liners blared with deafening intensity, when it didn't we missed the jokes.

The *Undersecretary*, a Hindi farce by Rakesh Mehta, is about little white lies to cover up big white lies — all for the

sake of being one up on a friend. As a comedy it lacked the flow to keep you in stitches, perhaps due to the limitations in the script and plot predictability. Yet, director C.K.V. Raman managed to keep the hall rolling and sustained interest right from the start, both as director and actor. Though all performers were fine, three stood out among them — C.K.V. Raman, Rakesh Asthana and Mamta Tomar.

Raman in the title role was superb, first as the henpecked husband, Chand Narain (all husbands — ambassadors and ministers — are henpecked, concedes the *Undersecretary*) and then as the man forced to "act" as the servant, Booraram, "to keep up appearances."

In the reversal of roles, Rak-

esh as Kishore, seems to enjoy his new-found status and uses his "personality" to impress.

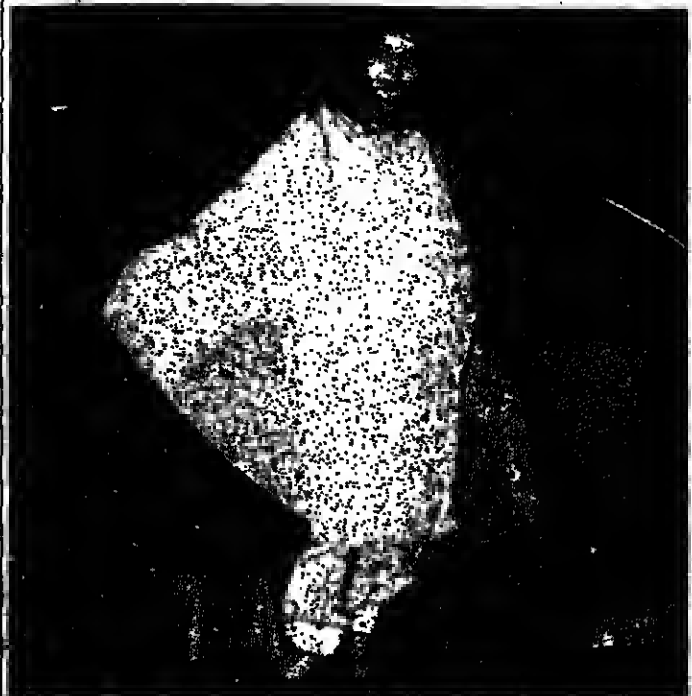
Mamta Tomar as Sarojidid a good job as the woman who plots the reversal and gets into a lot of trouble. She was just right as the over-indulgent wife.

Others in the cast were Veena Chaudhok, Beena Sharma, P.K. Merwah, Shashi Malhotra and Brij Mohan Nanda. Natya Bharati deserves credit for taking time to put on the play, particularly when not much is normally done in amateur dramatics in Hindi. Perhaps, it is a step forward. Better luck next time, if there is a next time. And IAC President M.M. Mathews deserves hearty thanks for finding chairs for the press. The play was sponsored by Oriental Insurance Company.

FA



Chand Narain and Saroj (C.K.V. Raman and Mamta Tomar) in *Undersecretary*.



Shobha models a salwar-kameez outfit.



Sharmila in evening wear.



Harem clothes.



Summer ensembles by Tapati.

(Photos by Raed Qutaina)

Clothes for a summer day

INDIAN designer Tapati Ray last week showed her summer collection at the May Queen Ball, held at the Sheraton Hotel by the Kuwait Goan Association. All the jazz and glitter of a conventional night out was there, including glamour.

Tapati's clothes are practical and casual. Her designs are simple and convenient. "I had to keep up with trends, without the clothes in soft, comfortable lines, accentuating curves and flattering women. Her colours were mostly pastels and flowery — all summer shades."

The clothes were shown by Grace Soarez, Arleen D'Cruz, Sharmila Ray, Shobha Thomas, Kavita Baitur, Ivy D'Silva, Susan D'Souza and Lydia Fernandes. The girls took to the catwalk with a

natural flair and did a good job. However, they lingered two minutes too long on the catwalk. "I had to give them two minutes and a half to change." On stage, the girls showed professionalism and confidence. The clothes — knee length dresses, salwar kameez and other ensembles were just right for a hot summer's day. Evening wear, in black, mustard and white with gold, was not as impressive. The highlight of the Kuwait

Goans show was the selection of the May Queen, who was chosen from 35 pretty aspirants. The title was won by Christine Dias. The runners-up were Sharon Ferdinand (first runner-up) and Sharon Nazareth (second runner-up). The winners received many prizes including an airline ticket, courtesy Al Ahlia Travel Agency, and others got many gifts including cameras, and cosmetics donated by local companies. The show was sponsored by State Express of London.

FA

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CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Kill Zone
Starring: Vincent Mathews,
Ted Briars

Al Sahm
The Running Man
Starring: Arnold Schwarzenegger

Al Hara
Hanna's Wa Amalaqah
(Arabic)

Starring: Huwaida, Hikmat
Wahba, Fuad Sharf-uddin

Drive-In
Al Mazakati (Arabic)
Starring: Sayyed Ziyad,
Saeed Saleh, Sabirin
(Two Shows: 7 pm and 9.30 pm)

Al Firdous
Ram aur Shyam (Hindi)
Starring: Dilip Kumar,
Waheeda Rehman, Mum-
taz

Al Fahsheel
Thoovana Thumbikal
(Malayalam)

Fahsheel Opera
Aarzoo (Hindi)
Starring: Rajendra Kumar,
Sadhana

Al Jahra
Chacha Bhatija (Hindi)

Granada
Kabhi Kabhi (Hindi)
Starring: Amitabh Bach-
chan

Sulabhikhat
Chen

Al Jleeb
Bhoomiyale Rajkanmar
(Malayalam)

Ahmed Drive-In
Bade of Nerva

PRAYERS

Fajr 3.20 am
Zuhr 11.45
Asr 3.20 pm
Maghreb 6.38
Isha 8.06

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Boushahri Gallery
Watercolour paintings by Yugoslav artist Jovica Prodanovic is open at the Boushahri Gallery, Salem Al Mubarak St. Salmiya, from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.40 pm.

CINEMA

British Council
The feature film "A Letter to Brezhnev" will be shown tonight at 6.30 pm, in the British Council gallery, Mansouriya. Rooted firmly in a forbidding real Liverpool, Elaine and Teresa lead us into a world inhabited by a generation of young people either unemployed or trapped in menial jobs with no prospects for advancement. Admission free

but please make reservations. Tel: 2515512.

THEATRE

Bengali Cultural Society
The society will present "Bichhan", a Hindi drama based on a story by Bengali novelist Mahasweta Devi, on June 2, 3, 9 and 10; 7.30 pm, at the Mousetrap Theatre, New English School. For reservations contact: 3902976; 3901806; 5621379.

Kuwait Singers
"Songs for a Summer Evening" is the title of a concert by the Singers. It will be held on May 31 and June 1 at the UAS, Salwa. Tickets — KD2. For reservations ring 3940770 ext. 57; 5384873; 5740627 (answering service).

I Got Rhythm
A musical show featuring Reem Yousef Kelani will be presented in the Grand Ballroom, Regency Palace.

Hotel, on June 2, Thursday.
Tickets — KD10 including dinner. Produced and directed by Glenis Muckle and Kerry Langley. All proceeds will be donated to the British charity Medical Aid for Palestinians to help Dr Pauline Cutting, OBE, and her team, to provide medical care for refugees. For reservations call 5718143; 5387755; 2627003; 5330934.

KLT
KLT, Ahmadi, will present Brigadoon, a musical, on June 1, 7.30 pm, gala night. Further performances are at 8.15 pm on June 7, 8, and 9 and at 5.30 pm on June 2, 3. Tickets KD3. Children — KD2. For reservations ring 3983724.

SOCIAL

German-Speaking Cultural Association
"The Women in World History" an evening of humour, will be presented at 8 pm on

May 29, Sunday, at Kuwait Hilton Hotel, Terrace Room. Tickets — KD1.500 are available from the German embassy and the German School and Library. For reservations phone 3983779.

Dutch reception
The Netherlands ambassador and Mrs J.F.R.M. Veling invite all Dutch nationals in Kuwait to a reception on the occasion of the Queen's birthday at the residence on Tuesday, May 24, from 6.30 to 8.30 pm.

Danish meeting
Daniella invites all Danish ladies to a coffee morning on Sunday, May 22, at 10 am, Arabic cooking will be demonstrated. For details and registration call, Anette — 3903430.

May 29, Sunday, at Kuwait Hilton Hotel, Terrace Room.
Tickets — KD1.500 are available from the German embassy and the German School and Library. For reservations phone 3983779.

Flassik cooking class
The monthly Flassik cooking class will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel on Wednesday, May 25, 4 pm. For details call Rory — 2530000 F/B Office.

Kuwait Caledonians
"Ceilidh" will be held on May 26, Thursday, at the Holiday Inn Hotel; 7.30 pm for 8 pm. Entertainer from Scotland will be Bill Barclay. For reservations phone 5610673 or 5335082.

SPORTS

Kuwait Nomads Rugby Club
There will be an end of season work party at the Fintas Park Ground on Thursday, May 26, at 4 pm. All members are urged to attend.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.25 World News via Satellite
- 3.25 Cartoons: Tao Tao
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 Magazine D'Actualite
- 4.20 Beer Al Tayi: ep. 2, starring Hussein Ayy Shara, Lina Al Tall, Rabeeh Shihab.
- 5.30 Al Manahil: serial for children
- 6.00 Songs and Music
- 7.30 Diwanayat Shuara Al Nabi: poetry session
- 8.15 Souk Al Ghaz: "Qismah wa Nasib." Starring: Mohammad Saeed Shirin, Zubair Numan.
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Hada Al Rajul (That is the Man). Starring: Noora, Salah Saadani, Khalid Zaki.
- 10.50 Min Kul Fann Soorah: variety show, presented by Aminah Al Sharah.
- 12.00 News Summary/World News via Satellite/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Care Bears: "The Last Laugh". Car-



There is comedy in *Together We Stand*, on KTV 2 tonight.

- 6.30 Danger Bay: "The Others Return". Dr Grant leads a mission to find a missing otter, but a man in the group creates problems.
- 7.00 Understanding Islam: weekly talk on Islam.
- 7.30 The Wacky World of Sports: a half-hour show of Wacky sporting events.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Flying Doctors: "Rally to the Cause". Two doctors help each other in an emergency.
- 9.30 *Together We Stand*: "Double Date". No two people are the same; and the family learns some truths about each other.

- Starring: Elliott Gould, Dee Wallace, Katie O'Neill, Ke Huy Quain, Natasha Bobo and Scott Grimes.
- 10.00 Hilary's World of Adventures: focus on mountain-climbing and the hazards of the sport.
- 10.30 Best-seller: "Woman in White". A new best-seller on the life and work of a lady doctor, who gets a hostile reception in a hospital.
- 11.30 News Summary Magazine D'Actualite Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

I AM a slow walker, but I never walk backwards —
Abraham Lincoln, US president (1809-1865).

New rioting in South Korea

Roh Tae-Woo
in a dilemma

By Barry Renfrew

SEOUL, South Korea. IAP: New rioting in Seoul and other South Korean cities underlines that President Roh Tae-Woo's government still faces strong opposition despite substantial democratic reforms.

Thousands of students and dissidents battled riot police this week to call for the overthrow of the Roh government. Protest leaders claimed South Korea is not a democracy.

"Down with the military dictatorship," and "destroy the murder regime," protesters chanted as they hurled firebombs and rocks at police in the worst violent unrest in months.

The rioting, which recurred in a small way the major unrest of last summer, showed how South Korean politics remain violent and unstable despite broad changes and the claimed desire of all parties and factions to build a stable democratic system.

Opposition groups, especially radical students, are still eager to take their causes into the streets and use violence in the fight against the government. The government still limits some political activity and is quick to use riot police to break up protests.

Distrustful

Many South Koreans remain distrustful of Roh as a former general and because of the role he played in the authoritarian government of former President Chun Doo-Hwan. Roh helped Chun seize power with military backing in 1980 when they were both generals.

The distrust was reflected in Roh's slender victory in December presidential elections over rival opposition candidates; the ruling Democratic Justice Party's loss of its parliamentary majority in elections last month; and continuing anti-government protests.

Opposition groups are calling for an investigation into Roh's role in the bloody suppression of the 1980 anti-government uprising in the southern city of Kwangju in which at least 191 people died. This week's protests marked the eight anniversary of the revolt.

The protests have been relatively small compared to nationwide riots last summer that forced the Chun government to hold elections. Roh replaced Chun in February in the first peaceful transfer of power in South Korea's turbulent 40-year history.

Radicals have attracted little

public support in the new unrest and there is little sign that the protests could become a threat to the government. But the 1987 protests mushroomed almost overnight and political observers avoid firm predictions about South Korean politics.

There is a widespread belief that the government and the main opposition parties want to avoid any major political unrest before South Korea hosts the Olympic Games in September. South Koreans see the Summer Games as a national triumph that will catapult the nation onto the world stage.

Roh has worked hard to try and build public confidence in the government. He promised to introduce full democracy while ensuring political stability. There have been major changes.

Many curbs on politics imposed by the Chun government have been removed and there is a stark contrast to a year ago when even minor peaceful demonstrations were ruthlessly suppressed by riot police.

Curbs

Roh has tried to project himself as a "common man" and removed much of the cold haughtiness that surrounded the presidency. Curbs on the press have been removed, most forms of self-expression are allowed and opposition parties operate freely.

But the government continues to impose some political controls. Anti-government protests in the streets are still likely to be broken up and scores of dissidents remain in jail serving long sentences for political activity.

Many ordinary South Koreans say the nation won't have real democracy until the control of the military, the government bureaucracy, big business and other powerful factions is ended.

People in the streets complain Roh has yet to follow through on many of his election promises for major social and economic reforms, including doubling the wages of the poor and industrial workers.

A more fundamental problem lies in the nature of South Korean politics and the traditional belief that compromise is the greatest sign of weakness. Political factions believe only one point of view is right and all others must be defeated and even destroyed.

Political leaders on all sides agree such an outlook stands in the way of democracy. But both the politicians and the nation seem to have little idea of how to break the vicious cycle.

Bush slowly stepping
away from Reagan

By Evans Witt

WASHINGTON, IAP: In a painfully slow ballet, George Bush is delicately stepping away from Ronald Reagan.

Each step is carefully choreographed as the cautious Republican vice president tries to define what he would do as president — without undermining or angering the president.

The Republican nominee-to-be cannot win without convincing Americans he is his own man. But he cannot break with Reagan dramatically, for that would shatter Bush's hold on the conservative foundation of his bid for the White House.

And Bush does want to be identified with low unemployment, continuing prosperity and a declining trade deficit — all current conditions the Reagan administration brags about.

But he is falling in the polls against Democratic front-runner Michael Dukakis, in part because he has failed thus far to paint for the voters a vivid picture of what he would do as president.

Ideas

As New Jersey Gov. Tom Kean said Thursday, "Ronald Reagan is a very popular man, but nobody wants a clone."

The White House appeared to ease the way for Bush when spokesman Martin Fitzwater said, "He has his ideas on how he's going to want to do things, and that's fine."

A weeklong trip through the west demonstrated graphically

the easy and the hard choices Bush must make in the next six months to try to put together a winning coalition in the fall.

In the Pacific Northwest, Bush hit hard on protecting the environment, proclaiming that the government must do more.

He didn't directly criticize the environmental record of the administration, but he did break cleanly with Reagan on one issue Monday. Bush said he would act to stop the sources of acid rain, while the administration just wants to study the problem more.

This was an easy one for Bush, for the environment is a sacred issue in the United States. No one is against clean air and clean water, even though there are disagreements on how to achieve those goals.

Indicted

And acid rain is not a burning issue for Reagan, nor is it one that is central to basic Republican constituencies.

The hard choices for Bush come in packages like the administration's dealing with Panama's Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega.

The Reagan Justice Department indicted Noriega for involvement in drug-running, but the White House is thinking of dropping the charges if Noriega will give up power.

Bush's first reaction was to say that talking about sensitive matters is a mistake. Of course, the White House was talking — albeit carefully — about the negotiations.

AS the "advance men" are quietly proceeding with planning President Reagan's visit to Moscow, reports from American observers and visitors to the Soviet Union are painting an increasingly disturbing picture about the prospects of General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's survival as the engine of his economic and cultural reforms.

The reason is that there are mounting indications of a weakening, if not a gradual disintegration, of his authority. Even he himself has publicly warned that he is encountering opposition not only at lower but at high levels. One reason for his declining authority, these reports state, is the speed with which he has been loosening the screws of discipline that have kept Soviet society bolted together and the confusion it has created.

The stirrings among the nationalities, which account for nearly half of the Soviet population, the intoxication among political activists who are eagerly setting up what they call "independent clubs," the idea of an opposition party, such as the Democratic Union, they all have caused deep anxieties within the Politburo that the situation could get out of hand.

Vigilant

It was for that reason, for instance, that the always vigilant secret police was ordered to step hard on the idea that there could be anything else but a one-party system in the Soviet Union.

Many other groups, have sprung up and raised their voices as radical reformers, old-fashioned nationalists, neo-Stalinists, human rights advocates, libertarians, environmentalists, fighters for free emigration.

What could hurt Gorbachev's survival even more would be a threat to the Soviet troops in

Afghanistan after most of them are withdrawn. President Najibullah and his Communist cadres are ousted by the Afghan mujahideen and Afghanistan becomes hostile territory. Nothing has surprised American experts more than the decision for the Soviets to pull out of Afghanistan and to refuse assuming responsibility for ensuring a friendly government is eventually set up in Kabul. It is an admission of failure unprecedented in modern Soviet history.

React

American officials are now debating how to react to the Soviet pull-out, which is not only a victory for the brave and indomitable Islamic guerrilla fighters, but also one for the United States which supplied the weapons, especially the anti-aircraft Stinger missiles, which made the Soviet police action too costly.

Once the Soviet retreat is completed, American interest in the area is likely to decline, and so will the importance of Pakistan to the United States. It will lose its vital role as transmission belt for arms to Afghanistan and Congress, therefore, may be less generous with aid and less lenient about its nuclear ambitions.

This in turn will improve India's dominance in that subcontinent. The decision to quit Afghanistan has also led to speculation here whether it may not herald a broader Soviet retrenchment in the Third World, especially in Cambodia and Angola where Moscow has been trying to provide proof of its global reach.

It may also account for changes in Soviet Middle Eastern diplomacy, such as suggesting to Yasser Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, to sit down with the Israelis, seeking improved relations with

Opposition to Soviet leader causes anxieties

Gorbachev's authority under question

Inside
Washington

By Henry Brandon



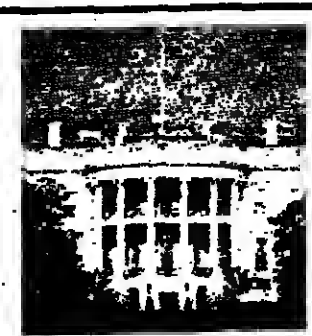
President Reagan

the bigger players. Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan rather than acting as the spoiler through bit players such as Libya.

Puzzling

The renewed efforts by Secretary of State George Shultz to breathe life into his Middle Eastern peace process are puzzling to most, for the prospects of success are as remote as they were at the time of his last visit, if anything they have further deteriorated since.

Most likely, the Reagan administration believes that these activities, especially during an election campaign, will prove that it continues to be actively engaged in seeking a diplomatic solution and that it has not thin-



Mikhail Gorbachev

own in the towel.

But to come back to the threats to Gorbachev's leadership. The strikes in Poland that they ignited a more serious and prolonged crisis, could have given conservatives in the party leadership a welcome opportunity to blame the waves glasnost has churned up.

Bestseller

There are ample signs that the governments in East Germany, Hungary and even Czechoslovakia find themselves under increasing pressures to follow the Soviet Union's lead and to loosen the old and rusty political screws to give their citizenry greater intellectual freedom and a higher standard of

living. Some East German visitors to Washington recently confessed that Moscow's Pravda newspaper is now a bestseller in their country because of its reports on the reforms and the discussions they have evoked. No doubt, it also makes East Germans wonder when their own government will follow the Russian example and rid itself of the old guard Communists and introduce its own version of reforms.

The ferment created by the reforms in the Soviet Union has had few major repercussions, but when it sets in, it may become a movement more difficult to control, for these countries have a history of political freedoms, higher living standards and freer exchanges with the West and the Soviet Union.

Again, any signs of disintegration of the Soviet Union's empire may provide another opportunity for placing the blame on Gorbachev. In reverse, though, the bitter protests in Poland against the drastic rise of prices of basic foods are warning to the Soviet Government which sooner rather than later, will have to do the same.

Warned

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, no doubt aware of the reports of the dangers to Gorbachev's continued leadership, in a recent interview with the Washington Post, warned that his tenure as the reformist leader may be in serious trouble and that it would be in the interest of the West to support him since he is advocating a more humane and less threatening policy than any of his predecessors and that internal stability in the Soviet Union is desirable.

She raised an issue which is being debated here among government officials and a variety of experts. The basic question to

which they are seeking an answer is whether it would be in the American national interest to help making the Soviet Union economically stronger.

Would it enable Soviets to shift funds from civilian to military uses and make her into a more formidable economic competitor?

And would it weaken the alliance, for it may lead to cutting the American defence budget and a general weakening of Western resolve to contain the Soviet Union?

The American business community generally favours lowering the trade barriers with the Soviet Union. It offers, after all, an almost unlimited market for virtually everything.

Cash

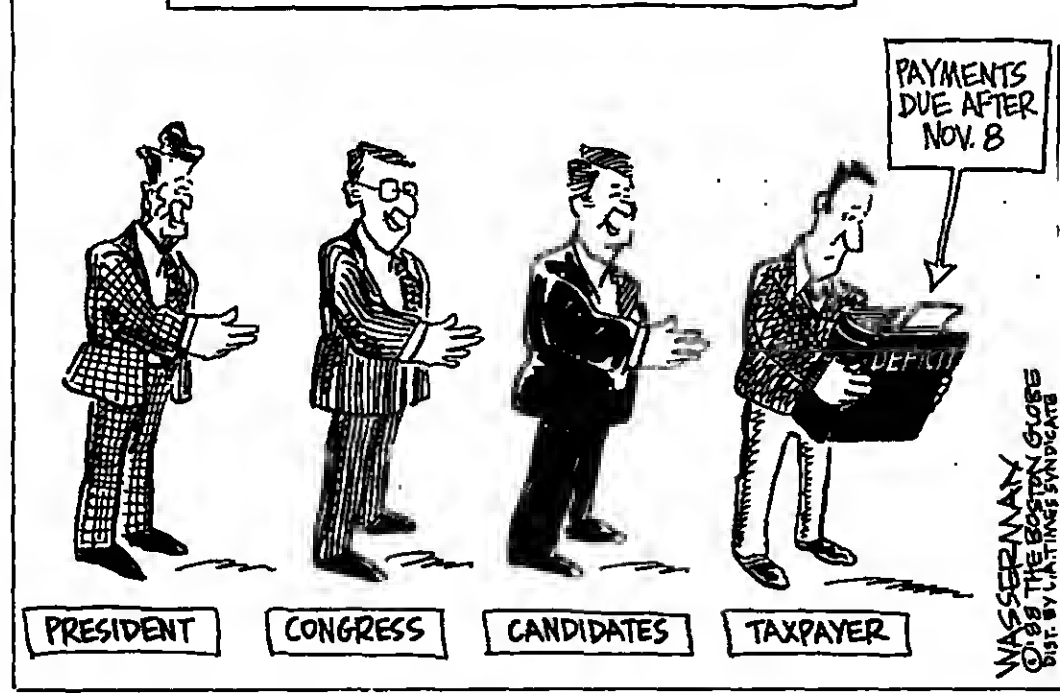
The trouble is that the Soviets are short on hard cash. It is true that they have a better credit rating than most Third World countries, but at the same time it is not as good as it used to be when Moscow could sell its oil for hard currencies and at a high price.

Furthermore, there is a definite limit to how much money it could raise in the West. Last week a consortium of West German banks agreed to give the Soviets a \$1.2 billion credit, which reportedly will be used for the purchase of consumer goods, mostly German, to give Perestroika the lift it badly needs.

Nothing apparently has changed since Gorbachev began promising more food and more consumer goods in the shops. With the complaints rising, he obviously feels the need to dampen them and to prove that this method have not failed to offer the ordinary citizen a better life.

What are the measures the United States could take to help him, if it wanted to? Not many. It can relax some of the current trade restrictions.

PASSING THE BUDGET

Several great powers lost
their way in Afghan mountains

By Thalia Griffiths

LONDON, (Reuters): The Soviet force withdrawing from Afghanistan is not the first major army to pull out of that hostile, mountainous country which has defied several great powers throughout its history.

The wild tribesmen of the region often caused trouble for some of the most advanced military forces of their day.

An account of a British withdrawal in 1842 described Afghanistan as a land unable to resist the march of a provisioned, disciplined Army but, with its fortified strongholds, difficult passes and warlike people, "never really subdued nor reconciled to our rule."

Alexander the Great 25 centuries ago was content with simply keeping open his lines of communication when he marched through the Afghan mountains from Persia to the Indus River.

The less cautious British, seeking to ensure that Czarist Russia did not obtain a base from which to threaten imperial-ruled India, fought three Afghan wars and lost.

Uprising

In 1838 they lodged an Army at Kabul to prop up a puppet ruler. After a popular uprising, the British Army retreated from Kabul towards the Khyber Pass in January 1842.

At least 4,000 British officers and men, Indian soldiers, wives and children were massacred by Afghan tribesmen.

Lieutenant Vincent Eyre, who survived, put the full death toll at nearer 17,000 from bullets, knives and frostbite.

He wrote that the British and

their followers ended up "a line of carcases to guide the future traveller on his way."

"The disastrous retreat and utter destruction of a force consisting of 5,000 fighting men and upwards of 12,000 camp-followers are events which will assuredly rouse the British lion from his repose and excite an indignant spirit of inquiry in every breast."

Eyre blamed the military disaster upon generals who left an Army at Kabul without keeping secure the supply route east to India. "We were not driven but starved out of Kabul," he said, spelling Kabul in the old-fashioned way.

Suffer

The first Russian soldiers pulling out of Afghanistan set off for home fearing they might suffer the same fate as the British almost 150 years before picked off by Muslim rebel snipers in gorges on the rugged road to the border.

They were heading a different way from the British, north towards Uzbekistan, rather than east to the Khyber Pass.

Moscow television reported on Tuesday that the vanguard of Soviet troops withdrawing from Afghanistan came under fire from rebels on the first leg of their journey from Kabul to the border.

But the guerrillas withdrew under bombardment from Soviet defence positions along the road between the Afghan capital and the Salang tunnel, according to the report which indicated that the 1,300-man force in a convoy of 230 tanks and armoured vehicles had suffered no casualties in Monday's incident.

"In the narrow military sense I think the Soviet Army emerges with its dignity intact but in the wider political sense it has been humiliated because (Kremlin leader Mikhail) Gorbachev has cut and run," Mark Urban, defence correspondent of the British newspaper, the Independent, and author of a book on the conflict, told Reuters.

"The Soviet Army had limited objectives which they achieved quite effectively," he said. "They wanted to secure the main cities and airports and the roads connecting them. Major offensives against guerrillas are never successful because they can just melt away after an attack."

Afghanistan is a lozenge-shaped country 1,200 km (800 miles) across and 800 km (500 miles) deep, bounded to the south and east by Pakistan, to the west by Iran and to the north by the Soviet Union.

In a land of primitive communications, the major highway loops from Soviet Uzbekistan in the northeast, south through Kabul and Ghazni, across to Kandahar and up through Herat in the far west to the border with Soviet Turkmenistan, giving the departing Army little choice of routes.

The cost of the campaign has been enormous for all sides. The United States estimates that one million Afghans have been killed since the establishment of communist rule in Afghanistan in April 1978, while Pakistan has put the figure at 1.2 million.

In either case, the death toll works out at 2,000 each week, though casualties were probably heavier in earlier years during Soviet bombardment of Afghan villages.

Morocco, Algeria maintain tight secrecy over agreement

Reconciliation may give
boost to Arab summit

By Michael Goldsmith

RABAT, Morocco, (AP): The reconciliation announced this week between Morocco and Algeria, hostile nations for more than 12 years, is expected to give a boost to next month's Arab summit and further the cause of North African unity.

But Morocco and Algeria have maintained tight secrecy over the agreements they are believed to have made over the Western Sahara and other contentious issues to bring the reconciliation about.

A communique issued simultaneously in Rabat and Algiers on Monday announced the decision of the two governments to re-establish full diplomatic relations immediately and to reactivate all past agreements including a 19-year-old Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.

Transport and communications links between the two countries are to be restored without delay.

Cooperate

The communique stressed the determination of the two Arab neighbours to cooperate toward Maghreb (North African) unity and toward solving a wide range of bilateral and regional problems — including the dispute over the Western Sahara, which has repeatedly brought them to the brink of outright war.

The Algerian-Moroccan decision could advance moves to bring all five Maghreb nations — Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Mauritania — closer together. All are former French colonies. France, which retains major interests in the region, has encouraged moves toward a North African common market, where goods and individuals would flow freely across the borders.

Previously, Libyan leader Col Moammar Khaddafi has tried to unite his nation with other North African states, without success. But Tunisia and Libya have recently decided to restore their diplomatic ties after a two-year break. That move came after El Abidine Ben Ali ousted Habib Bourguiba, a foe of Libya, from the Tunisian leadership on Nov. 6.

Concessions

The Algerian-Moroccan announcement followed months of secret high-level diplomatic contacts between the two governments and strong pressure from other Arab countries to put an end to their long dispute.

The joint communique said nothing about the concessions believed have been made by the two sides concerning the Western Sahara — the root of their quarrel.

But several Western and

African diplomats said meaningful concessions must have been made by both sides.

Newspapers and radio commentators in both countries applauded the reconciliation but did not elaborate.

The Moroccan government organ Le Matin du Sahara sought to dispel speculation that Algeria agreed to resume relations only to ensure the participation of King Hassan II of Morocco in the Arab summit meeting scheduled to begin June 7 in Algiers.

King Hassan said earlier he would not attend the summit while Morocco had no diplomatic relations with Algeria.

Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi hailed the reconciliation Tuesday and said the decision will have a positive effect on the summit.

Attack

Diplomatic observers noted that the joint communique made no reference to the Polisario Independence Movement in the Moroccan-annexed Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony.

It was Algeria's military, financial, logistic and diplomatic support for the Polisario Front that led to the break in relations with Morocco in March 1986.

Hours before the communique

was issued, Polisario's Algiers headquarters claimed the guerrillas had launched an attack on Moroccan troops in the desert and killed 20 of them. In accordance with usual practice, Morocco refused to confirm or deny the report.

In its first comment on the reconciliation, the Polisario Front later said it was "determined to pursue its legitimate struggle for the conquest of sovereignty over all its national territory."

The statement said the guerrilla group approved any move toward lessening tension and creating the "greater Maghreb" but added:

"The only just and definitive solution is the recognition of the national rights of the Saharan state."

The Algerian and Moroccan armies, as well as the guerrillas, have suffered thousands of casualties in the sporadic desert fighting that has continued ever since.

Algeria had hitherto insisted that relations could only be restored between the two governments after Morocco agreed to open direct talks with the Polisario leadership. King Hassan consistently rejected such talks on the grounds that this would prejudice the result of a proposed referendum in the disputed territory.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1629 — Denmark's King Christian IV is forced to sign Peace of Lubek with Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand.

1693 — French again destroy Heidelberg and ravage the Rhineland.

1762 — Sweden and Prussia sign peace treaty of Hamburg.

1833 — Constitution in Chile gives greater power to president and establishes Roman Catholicism as state religion.

1822 — United States and Korea sign treaty of peace and friendship.

1914 — Britain acquires control of oil properties in Persian Gulf from Anglo-Persian Oil Company.

1918 — German planes raid Paris, France, in World War I.

1939 — Germany's Adolf Hitler and Italy's Benito Mussolini sign "Act of Steel," a 10-year political and military alliance between the two nations.

1967 — Communist-led riots occur in Hong Kong against British.

1973 — Britain and United States veto UN Security Council resolution to extend trade sanctions against Rhodesia to include South Africa and Portuguese territories in Africa.

1975 — White-ruled African nation of Rhodesia is expelled from Olympic competition because of its racial policies.

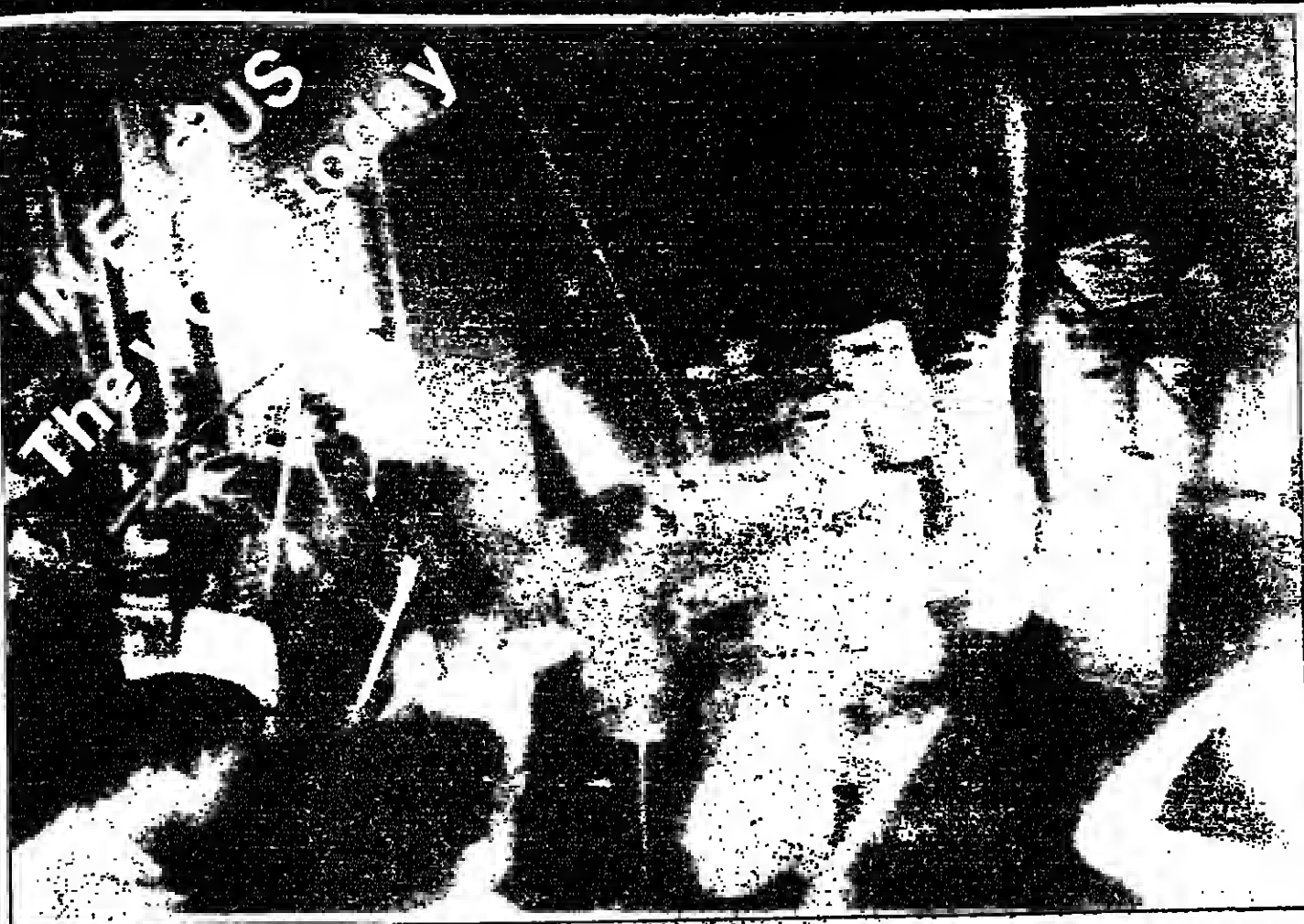
1982 — Britain says 5,000 of its troops have landed on Falkland Islands beachhead, and that 20 men are presumed dead in sinking of British missile frigate.

1983 — Giant avalanche roars down on Teglio, tiny northern Italian village, killing 9 people and injuring at least 20.

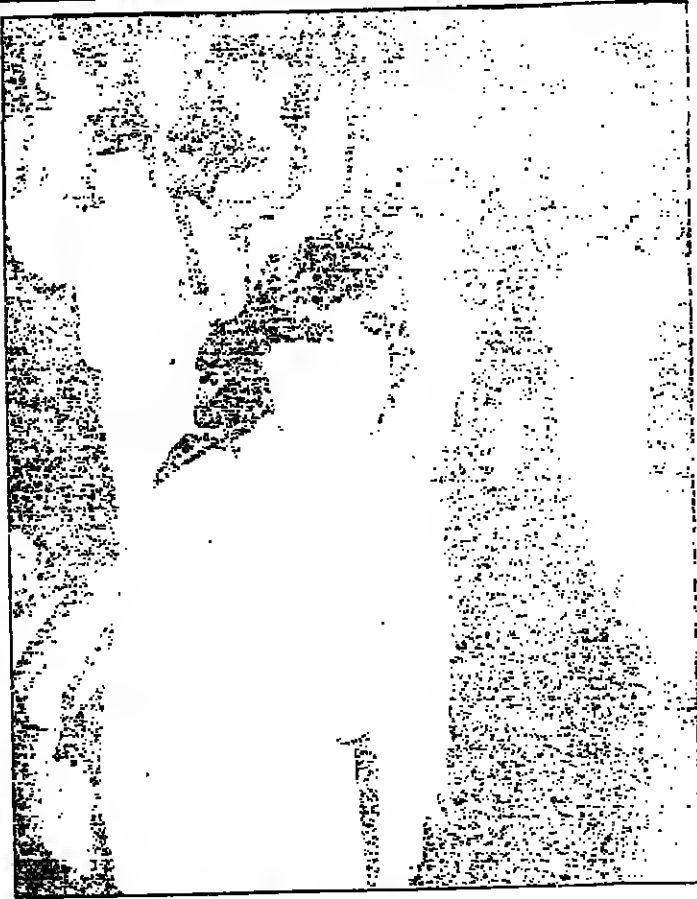
1984 — Soviet forces are reported to continue to bomb access to the Panjshir Valley in northern Afghanistan, while also pursuing a diplomatic solution to the 4-year-old struggle against Muslim guerrillas.

1985 — A car bomb explodes in a Beirut suburb, killing 60 people and wounding 190 others.

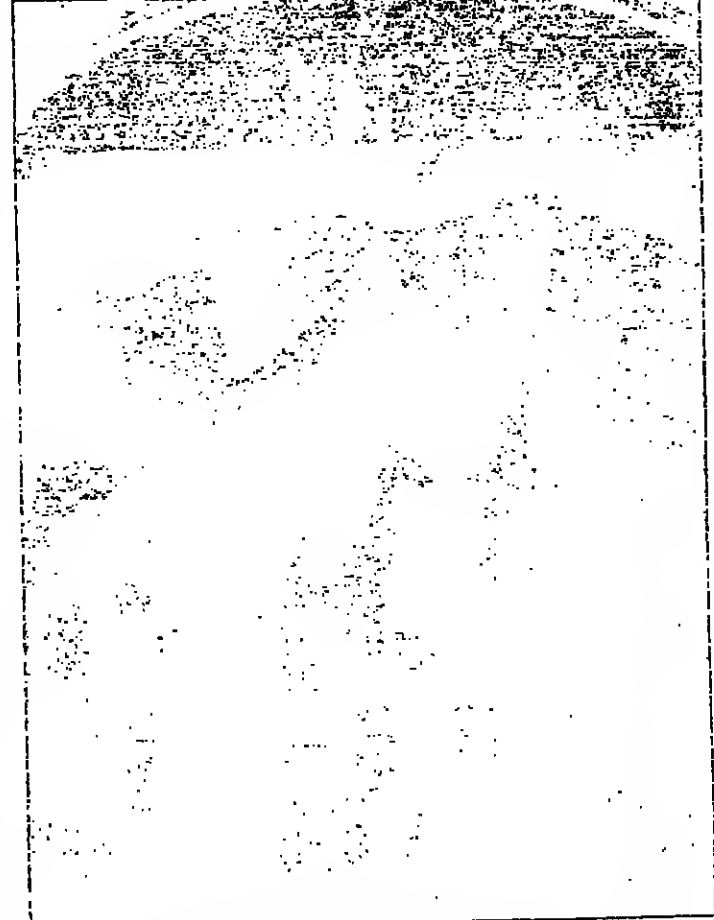
1987 — Lebanon's President Amin Gemayel seeks UN Security Council help to prevent Israel from demolishing village suspected of harbouring guerrillas.



FARMERS armed with rocks and poles try to storm Taiwan's parliament on Friday as riot policemen block them with shields at the main entrance. 3,000 farmers marched through Taipei to protest against agricultural policy. About 40 people, including 20 police and five news reporters were injured in the violent demonstration. (Reuter wirephoto)



NORTH KOREAN table tennis team members leave a Tokyo hotel as they head for the airport yesterday, ready to fly back home after suddenly pulling out of the Asian Table Tennis Championships in Niigata, Japan. They accused the Japanese government of forcing the players to leave a reception held in their honour. (Reuter wirephoto)



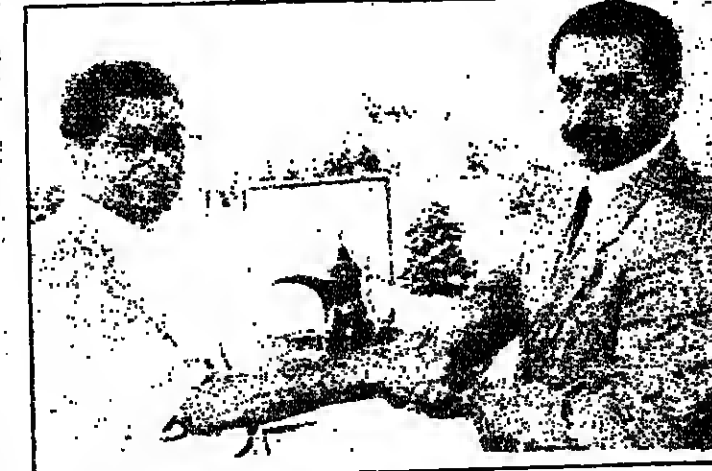
VISITORS to Red Square examine a window display in Gum's, Moscow's main department store, decorated with Soviet and American flags in honour of the US-Soviet summit to be held in Moscow from May 29 to June 2. (Reuter wirephoto)



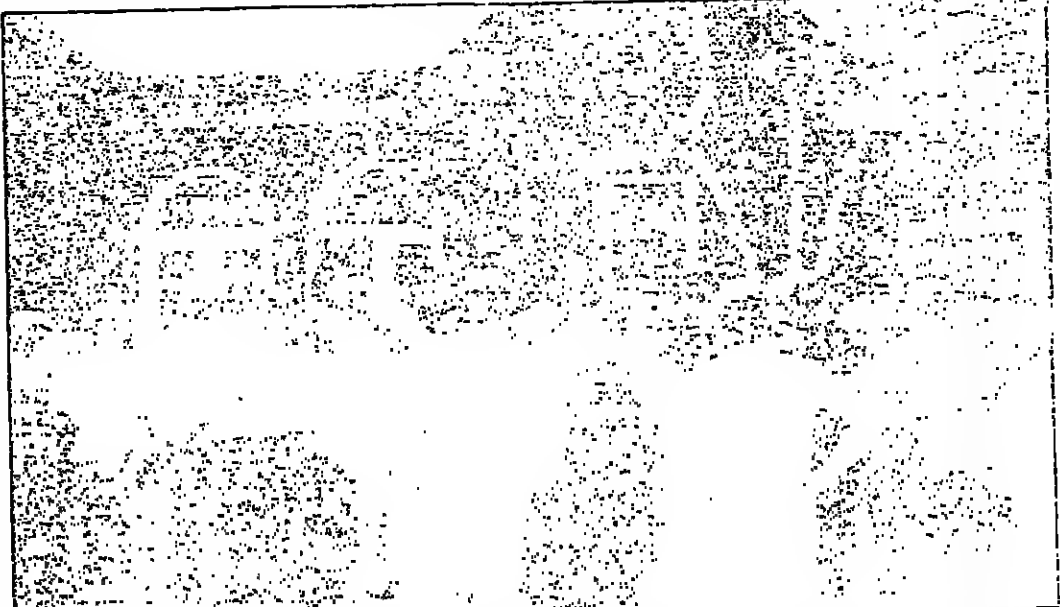
PAUL NITZE (left), senior arms advisor to Secretary of State, George Shultz, and chief US arms negotiator Max Kampelman, listen to a briefing on Friday on arms control to prepare for the upcoming Moscow summit. (Reuter wirephoto)



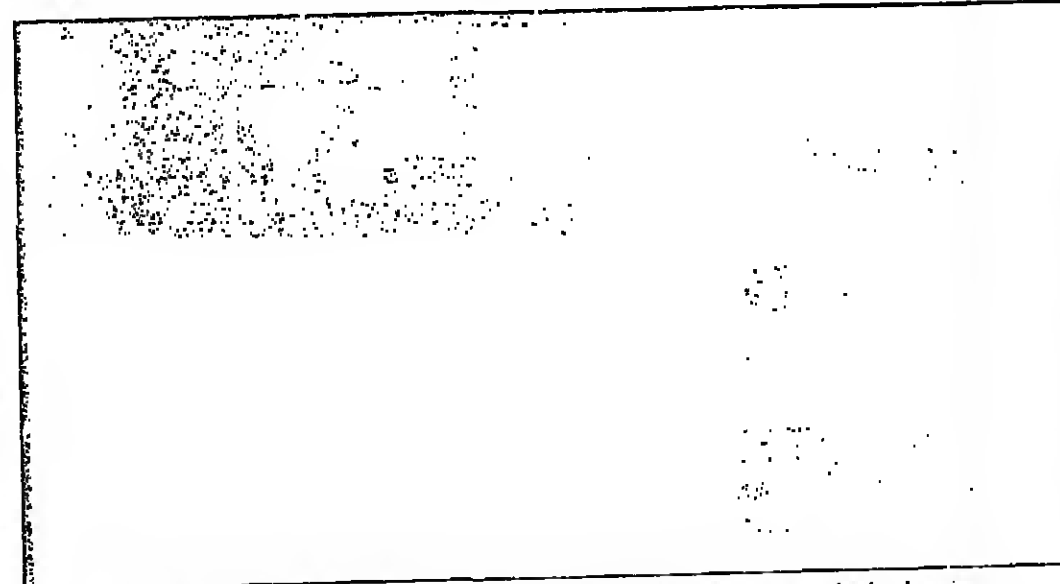
A MAN, carrying a box, appears to make the same move as the statue of an ancient Greek athlete, by the site of the old Olympic stadium in which the first Olympic Games took place in 776. (Reuter wirephoto)



YOUSRY NASRALLAH (left) of Egypt receives the Arab Film Critic's Prize from Al Anbaa journalist Abdel Sabar Naji at the 41st Cannes Film Festival. Director Nasrallah receives the award for his film 'Summer Flight'. (Reuter wirephoto)



PARENTS and neighbors listen outside Hubbard Woods elementary school on Friday as the school superintendent, Donald Monroe, briefs them on the shooting incident in a classroom where one student was killed and six wounded when a woman walked into the school and shot at random. (Reuter wirephoto)



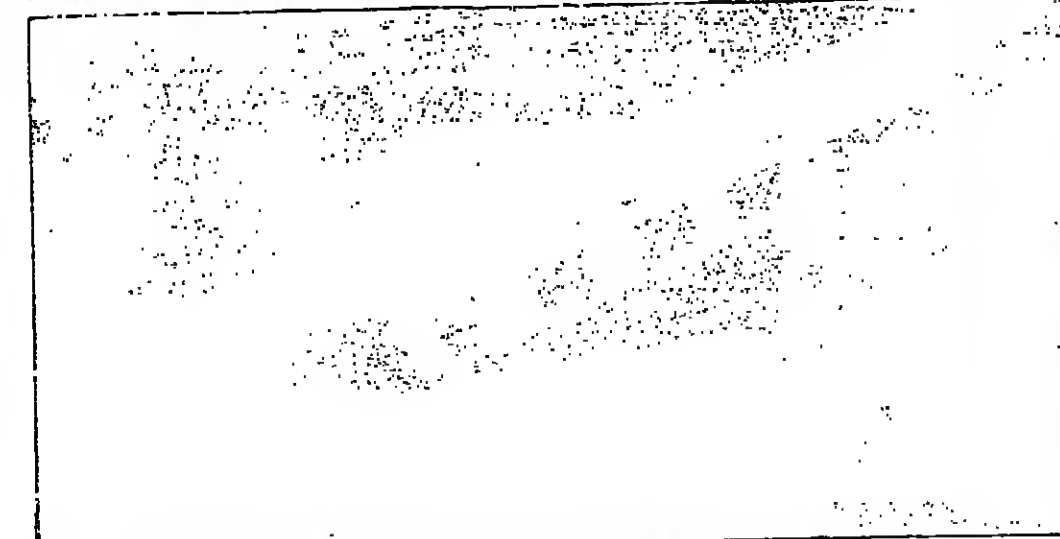
A SEAMAN of a Soviet warship standing next to an anti-aircraft gun, looks for Iranian gunboats in the southern Gulf on Thursday. Three hours earlier Iranian gunboats set fire to the Norwegian tanker 'Berge Strand', wounding one crewman. (Reuter wirephoto)



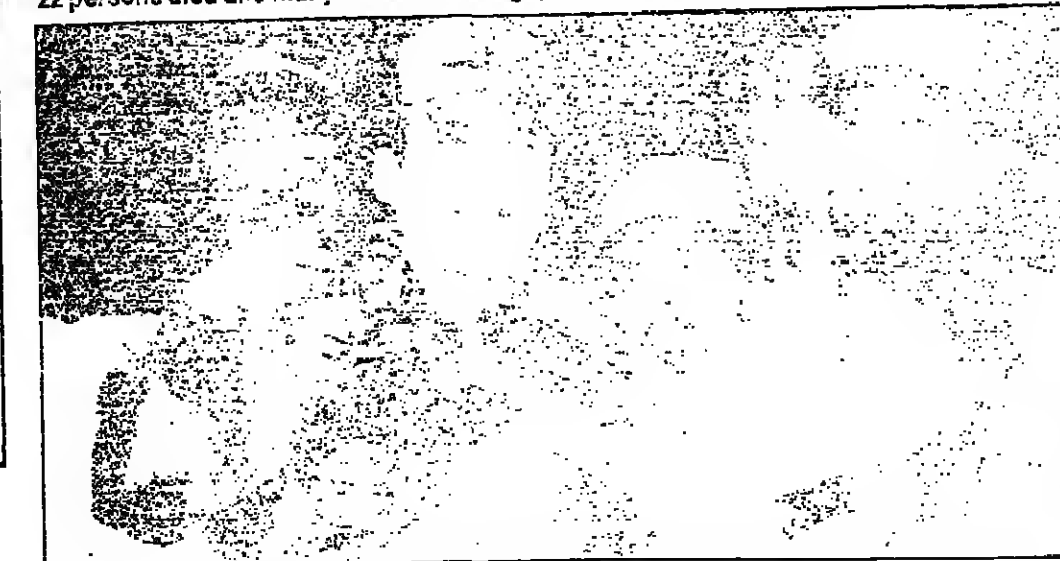
ARCHBISHOP Desmond Tutu, installed tonight as Chancellor of the University of the Western Cape, leads an academic procession into the ceremony. Tutu, who was welcomed by a large group of placard-waving students from the coloured (mixed race) university, defended his support for sanctions against South Africa and accused his opponents of trying to create a climate of hysteria. (Reuter wirephoto)



THIS glass sculpture was auctioned on Friday in Stockholm for 950,000 crowns (\$160,000), a world record price for glass artware, Stockholm auction house Bokowskis said. The 22 cm (8.5 inch) piece, depicting a chameleon coloured in orange, green and blue, was designed in 1939 by Edwin Ohrstrom in southern Sweden. (Reuter wirephoto)



VILLAGERS gather at the river bank to watch the rescue operation after a passenger train collided with a truck at a railway crossing in central Thailand on Friday. More than 22 persons died and many are still missing. (Reuter wirephoto)



PANAMANIAN General, Manuel Noriega, said on Friday there can be no solution to the Panamanian crisis unless the United States government recognises acting President Solis Palma. (Reuter wirephoto)

Becker eyes the Wimbledon crown again

By Judy Byrne

WONDERKID Boris Becker has given up love for his first passion... tennis. Ever since the 20-year-old maestro of the centre court began his relationship with Monte Carlo beauty Benedicte Courtin, his game has gone gradually downhill.

Now he has finally decided to separate from Benedicte to concentrate on tennis.

Behind his decision is his determination to recapture his crown as the king of tennis at this year's Wimbledon.

His main rival will be Australian Pat Cash, who by contrast, seems to thrive on a happy family life. His Norwegian girlfriend Anne-Britt Kirstiansen follows the tennis circuits with him along with their two-year-old son, Daniel, and baby daughter, Mia.

And, unlike Becker, for whom tennis is all, Cash seems to have found that for him there are other things in life. He pulled out of the Davis Cup recently to watch Mia's birth, dashing his country's hopes of a win at the same time.

Yet for Becker, babies would be no substitute for winner's trophies right now. He has once again focussed his laser-beam will to win on becoming the supreme champion.

Boris was just four years old when he picked up a tennis racket and hit a ball around a court with his older sister, Sabine, while their parents played nearby.

Two years later, regional coach Boris Breskuar thought he was so promising he recommended Becker for special twice a week training sessions. At eight, his regime was stepped up to three hours a day.

At the National Training Centre, Becker's game was put under the microscope. So was Becker. And if they liked the game, they loved the boy.

It was his results in personality tests that singled him out as being well ahead of the field. The tests looked for 18 different mental characteristics that could effect a player's performance, ranging from laziness and lack of discipline to being too much of a loner or too eager to be a star.

Becker did not have a single one of them. At ten, he was

already getting from his coaches reports like "very determined" and "excellent match-work."

Richard Schonborg, head coach of the German Federation says: "Boris was not the hardest working in training but he was always the most ambitious. He hates nothing more than being second best. Right from the start he was always a fighter."

That year at the Training Centre he was set the task of running up a steep hill against an older and faster boy, Schonborg adds: "He pushed so hard he collapsed and vomited at the end of the test."

Drives

To this day Becker still drives himself relentlessly. When he loses he does not slump into dejection, as another player might. Instead he does an hour's strenuous sit-ups and other exercises, as if he is punishing his body for letting him down.

But Becker has always kept his eye on the ball and victory.



Boris, the morning after his Wimbledon victory.

When he arrived at Wimbledon in 1985, a carrot-topped six foot two inch tall kid carrying his own bags, listening to Dire Straits on his Walkman, he hardly caused a ripple of interest among the hordes of autograph-hunters.

His manager, Ion Tiriac, an old partner of Ilie Nastase's back in their Romanian youth, had high hopes of his unknown protégé. But even he underestimated the speed of his rise. "I am positive he is going to get into the top 12 in the next 18 months," he said.

Three weeks, after his unheralded arrival at Wimbledon, Becker rode out again in a luxury limousine. He had come from nowhere to be the winner of the men's singles. He was soon getting 1,000 fan letters a day. Marriage proposals arrived in every morning's post. The victory also meant that he had just banked £130,000, four times more than he had won in the year before.

All he could say when he got the cheque was: "Gosh, that's a lot." For Becker has never carried cash and when he wants something he simply asks his manager.

Inside a year, Boris won the title again. This time it added £140,000 to his earnings and an estimated £4,000,000 to his potential earnings from the spin-offs.

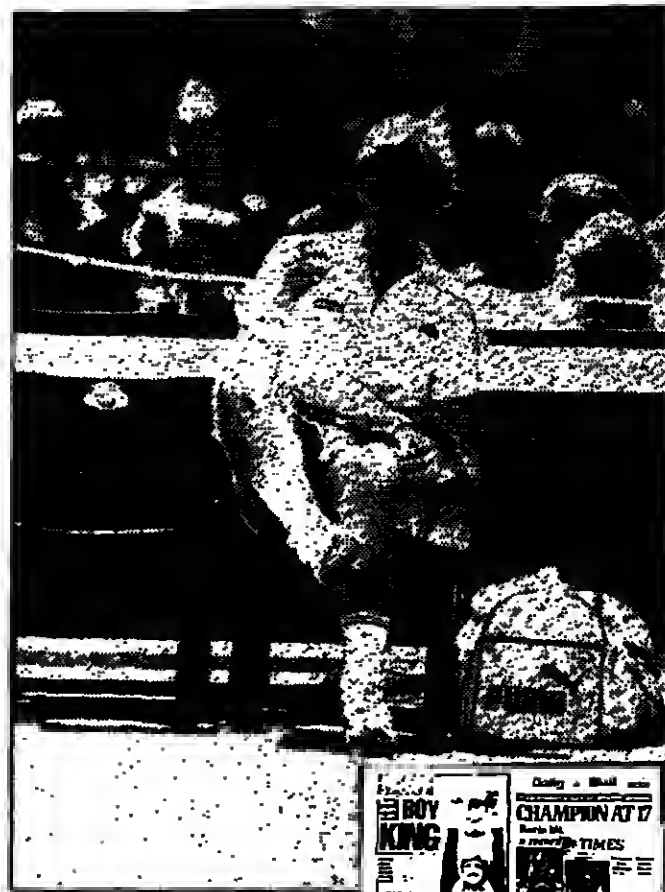
But there was a price to pay. Becker has always been wary of romantic involvement and the demands it can make on energy levels. Just before the 1986 Wimbledon, his romance with American tennis player Susan Mascarin ended. Brunette Susan returned his gold chain love token.

Becker, often lonely on tour, had spent more than £200 on a single trans-Atlantic telephone chat with her. But he was determined not to let heartache get to him. The tennis had to come first.

He said: "Girls are a distraction and can easily cost you points on the tennis court." He was convinced that it was falling in love with Tatum O'Neal that had knocked John McEnroe off his number one perch.

Boris said: "John is paying the price for not thinking just about tennis."

And while the ruthless determination to put his game first



Tennis superstar takes a breather on court (above) and inset, front page headlines after his stunning victory.

might seem hard-hearted, it does make sound financial sense. Experts reckon he could make £100,000,000 by the time he is 30. But to do that, he needs to keep winning.

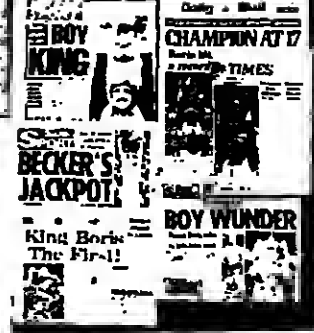
Tennis is increasingly a young man's game. Family life might be able to wait. The tennis golden egg will not.

Three years ago, he signed a £10,000,000 deal with Puma for using their clothes and equipment for the next six years. The firm had sold only a total of 10,000 of their rackets in the United States pre-Becker.

After Becker's first Wimbledon win they sold 30,000 at £60 a piece in one month. It now means that Becker lives in tax exile in Monte Carlo.

Becker says he had never heard of Wimbledon until Bjorn Borg began winning it.

Nor had he ever seen a final before the one he reached and won. And he admits there are times when he wonders if 17



was not too young to have been a champion.

But to make his sacrifices worth it, Boris must now make the most of his tennis career. Unlike Pat Cash, if he loses he doesn't have a happy family life to fall back on.

Cash says having children has actually been good for his game. "I want to do well for them," he says. Becker, on the other hand has only his music and games of chess to keep him company as he moves from one hotel room to another around the world.

For now that is the way he wants it. "Life is all about winning and so is tennis," he says. "Winning is not everything — it is the ONLY thing."

By David Lewin

KIRK Douglas always said of his son Michael: "There is a piece of steel inside him just waiting to be revealed." Wall Street, the film that has just won the younger Douglas his first acting Oscar, finally shows that to be true. It is about greed — unalloyed, unapologetic greed.

Michael Douglas plays a trader called Gordon Gekko — and the choice of name is conscious: a Gekko is a lizard that preys on small animals and never blinks its eye.

And he plays him hard too: hair blackened and slicked back and with credo based on that of the real-life Wall Street trader Ivan Boesky (the one-time inside trader who is now inside an American prison earning 11 cents a day) who said: "Greed is good. Greed works. Greed is right."

"At first in Hollywood I did rush in for as much pleasure as I could get," said Michael.

"But as I grew older I didn't feel comfortable with promiscuity any more. At first it was a very healthy thing to do, and I'd recommend it to anyone if the girls are willing and liberated."

"But after marriage you change and I am old fashioned about marriage."

However, there still can be problems — and Michael Douglas is honest about facing up to them.

"It is difficult to balance marriage and a career as an actor. You see, there isn't any equality and there cannot be because actors are paid to be selfish and self-involved, which is why they concentrate upon themselves to the exclusion of nearly everyone else."

Michael decided to become an actor in his third year in college. His father then was often making as many as three films a year.

"He seldom took the opportunity to savour his successes," said Michael. "But I want to enjoy it and not look back when I am older and ask where it all went."

"My father impresses me with his killer instincts and his energy."

"He fights. I never felt comfortable with the rage and intensity which was my father's trademark in movies. My father's spirit was bigger but I never had to worry about where the next meal was coming from."

Chip off the old block

"So what I did wasn't for bread alone — not just to earn a living. But when you make a film (he is a producer as well, and a successful one too) it is like being in love, you can't fake it. You have to keep the energy level high. You can't fake love and you can't fake energy making a movie."

Kirk Douglas said when his son got the Gekko part: "When you do a heavy, you'll surprise people who see only the nice guy stuff. I know what hostilities lurk beneath his apparently bland exterior."

And what unexpected hostilities are those?

Michael said: "Rejection about films I wanted to make. The energy of revenge can be very healthy if directed properly. I wanted to get even with those who doubted my ability as an actor or a producer. I like enjoying a grudge."

"It wasn't a question of anyone saying 'Why should he do it because he is a Douglas?' But the rejection out of hand that I might be able to do it."

"The biggest advantage of being a second generation actor is that you don't have any illusions about what it is all about. You see everyone's vulnerabilities and insecurities. I had stability at home, and

when all my father's friends who were big stars came to dinner, to us they weren't stars but workers doing a job."

"It also taught me what fame means — which is to protect yourself from a false sense of importance because that is phoney, with people paying more attention to you than you deserve."

"I have watched careers go up and go down. I prefer to look upon it as a surfing wave: you wait for the right one to a series, and take it."

Wave

Hollywood, sensing that wave, will now offer Michael anything he wants — either as a producer or as an actor. That is what the Oscar really means.

Michael and Kirk Douglas are talking now about finally making a film together. But they haven't decided which one of them would produce it.

"The way he sees it, he would be the villain and I would be the good guy," said Michael Douglas. "But if I'm the producer I'd be the villain too."

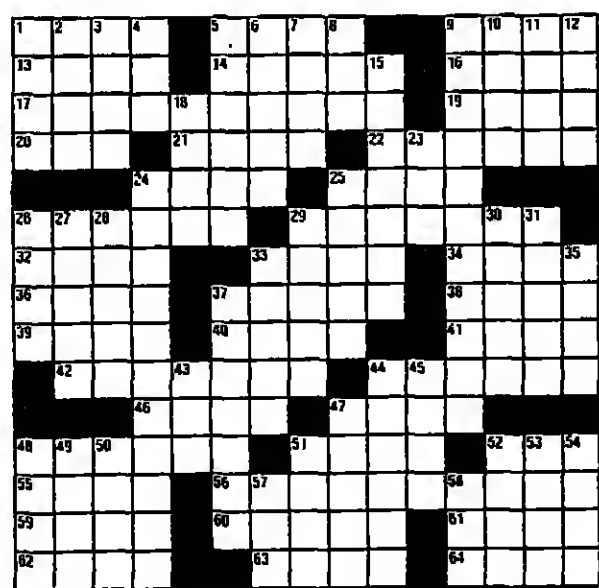
Kirk Douglas laughs happily at the idea. He sees the problem another way.

"Michael now earns so much," he said, "that there would be nothing left in the budget for me."



Michael Douglas: talking about making a film with his father Kirk Douglas

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Smidgions
5 Place to hang a hat
9 "Dracula" author Stoker
13 Concerning: Lal
14 Certain clergyman
16 Trademark
17 First prize
18 Functions
20 Hurricane center
21 Guido's notes
22 Feers
24 Sing in a forceful manner
25 Powdery carbon
26 Kiosks
29 Free loader
32 Seat of the Inca empire
33 Head skyward
34 — Balco
35 Angel, in Paris
37 Oscillates
38 Baseball number
39 Ticket leftover
40 Certain jam ingredients?
41 Hounds
42 Cloth edge
44 Climbers' challenges
46 Sculler's gear
47 Rare bird
48 North or South
51 Theater lighting
52 Chanced upon
55 Eager
56 Duke athletes
59 Hawaiian chant
60 Moselle leader
61 Battle solo
62 Egg on
63 Sweet and black-eyed
64 Close by

DOWN
1 Be in harmony
2 Solitary
3 — blue
4 Get it?
5 Sings, in a way
6 Morocco's capital
7 Recedes
8 Oil-yielding tree
9 Roy Scheider movie
10 Dickens' Miss Dattle
11 Venerable
12 Librettiist
14 Hart
15 Alfresco's opposite
16 Scottish dance
23 Mythical bird
24 Aristocratic
25 Afternoon TV fare
26 Resorts
27 Circus structures
28 Lock horns
29 Roger or Dudley
30 Part of TSE
31 Kitchen
32 Certain partygoers
35 Monsier's loch
37 Ancient Egyptian symbols
43 Cistern
44 Positive electrodes
45 Network
47 La Scala offering
48 Clammy
49 Allium
50 One thousand: Comb. form
51 Certain
52 Bog down
53 Director Kazan
54 Romanov title
57 Racing circuit
58 A Johnson

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

TEEM BETA SANER
ELMO OPAL AGENT
RIOT EIRE LOVEO
MOTHERCOURAGE
STEED TOM RTE
ROPE OIMMER
ORAW ARES OONA
RIPE DONEE TROT
ITAL STAR HERO
PARLOR ALGAE
SST TAN PRADO
MOTHERSHELPER
PLEBE WACO ORAL
HONOR ERAS OOLE
OATES RANT ENTS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

FIND THE WINNER

East-West vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ J 10 9 6
♥ K J 8
♦ 8 6 3
♣ 7 4 2

WEST EAST
♠ A K Q 8 2 ♠ 7 4 3
♥ 5 3 ♥ 2
♦ K Q 10 ♦ J 9 5 4 2
♣ K 10 6 ♣ J 9 8 5

SOUTH
♠ 5
♥ A Q 10 9 7 6 4
♦ A 7
♣ A Q 3

The bidding:
West North East South
1 ♠ Pass Pass 4 ♣
Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: King of ♣

We have warned repeatedly about the danger of taking a finesse simply because it is available. All too often a superior line exists, but it is ignored because of the lure of a finesse.

The fact that West's opening bid was passed round to him made South sure that he could expect to find some help in his partner's hand. His decision to bid four hearts was a practical solution to an

awkward hiding problem. West led the king of spades, then shifted to the king of diamonds at trick two, and South wasted little time in going down. He took his ace, cashed the ace of trumps and entered dummy with a trump to the jack. A club finesse lost, and West cashed the queen of diamonds and continued with the ten. Declarer ruffed, but he had no way of avoiding the loss of another club trick for down one.

In his haste to take the club finesse, declarer overlooked the possibility that he could set up his game-going trick—in the enemy suit! After winning the ace of diamonds, declarer should enter dummy with a trump to the eight to lead the jack of spades. When East does not cover, instead of ruffing declarer should discard his diamond loser. No matter what West returns, declarer wins, enters dummy with a trump to the jack, in the process drawing the remaining trump, and perseveres with the ten of spades, discarding a club loser from hand.

West can win his ace, but the table's nine of spades is now high, and the remaining trump serves as the entry. Declarer can discard his last club loser to fulfill his contract, conceding only three spade tricks!



"How does anyone get four aces six times in a row?"

THE WIZARD OF ID



B.C.



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)
You will be in better spirits but must not fly over the top. You will be better able to deal with a personal problem. Do not do anything to upset your partner. Be cordial.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)
Mars's better influence will help you to maintain harmony with those around you. You will have something to be pleased about. You should avoid being laggardly. Be responsive.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)
The situation is better than it seems at first. However not everything will come to you on a plate. Your charm will help you to get your way in some things. Be flexible.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)
Venus's better influence will help you to make the most of the time available to you. You will be able to make your mind up. A friend will prove to be a great help to you. Be more approachable.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)
You should not be apprehensive about phoning someone who wants to talk to you. The Moon's better influence will help you to make the right response in an awkward situation.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)
You will be able to do something that interests you. However you must not leave aside an essential chore that is not so interesting. Your private life will demand more of your attention. Be sensible.

Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)
Since you have no time to do all you would like to do choose your tasks carefully. The Sun's influence will help you to make the right decision. You should not place too much reliance on others. Be loyal.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)
You must not be in the best of moods and you should avoid giving offense. You must beware of eating anything that might cause a stomach upset. Avoid doing anything that you know is not fair. Be tactful.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
The Moon's better influence will help you to reduce tension. You must be even more careful when driving and should certainly not drive after drinking.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
This is going to be the start of an interesting period for you. You will be better able to communicate with those close to you. You are all too liable to waste a good opportunity. Be reasonable.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
You should not allow yourself to be possessed by gloomy thoughts. There is no point in regretting what might have been. You should not act on the spur of the moment. Be a little more alert.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)
Mars's better influence will help you to take the right attitude towards change. You will have the energy you need to do what has to be done. You will be able to set a good example.

SNIPPETS

Kurdish rebels free Pinoy workers

THREE Filipino workers who were held as prisoners by the Kurdish rebels in Iraq for nine months have been released through the intervention of the government of Iran.

Sayed Kamal Sadjadi, charge d'affaires of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, attesting to his country's friendly relations with the Philippines, said the Iranian government made representations for the release of the three Filipino workers (PUK) upon the request of the Philippine Embassy in Tehran.

The Iranian Embassy identified the Filipinos as Cesar Caranran, Rey del Rosario and Gildo dela Cruz.

He said the three Filipino workers were turned over to the Philippine Embassy in good health, adding that they are expected to return to their families in the Philippines soon.

Cardinal Sin appeals to Aussies

MELBOURNE: Jaime Cardinal Sin appealed to Australian men to stop bringing in mail-order brides from the Philippines.

Sin said many Australian men who married Filipinas were preying on the poverty of this country's women "and that is not good."

He said the Catholic church in Australia was co-operating with Philippine church authorities in a bid to end the burgeoning mail-order business.

"But I address myself to the men of Australia, they should have some control too," he told journalists after arriving here with two Philippine government ministers to attend the fourth Asian Business Conference for Human Development.

Mariage agencies inform their clients through the mail of available Filipinas and other Asian women.

"Come to us for your lifetime link. Our ladies living overseas are of good reputations and free to marry."

Robber lynched in Manila

A HOLDUP man who robbed a businesswoman of cash and jewelry was mauled and seriously injured by an angry crowd in Quezon City yesterday.

Antonio Casas, 31, was beaten to a bloody pulp before he was brought to the East Avenue Medical Centre by Sgt. Romeo Gemzon who saw him being lynched by the crowd.

After treatment, Casas was taken to Camp. Gen. Tomas Karingal, also in Quezon City, for investigation.

Investigator Pat. Edgar Enopla said Casas had barged into the house of Clarita Jose, 30, at 963 Phil-Am Homes at about 1 p.m. He hogtied Jose, who was alone in the house and locked her in one of the rooms before ransacking the house, police said.

Casas was fleeing with his loot — jewelry and P9,600 in cash — when a group of men, who apparently sensed the robbery and had been waiting for him outside the house attacked him.

PBA basketball

Purefoods boot out Great Taste

By Roy Luarca

PUREFOODS would have wanted a better way of ousting Great Taste Instant Milk and setting the solo lead in the PBA Open Conference than last week.

Playing without import Kenny Fields, the Milkmen were gobbled up by the Hotdogs, 148-129, at the start of the second round of the semifinals at the ULTRA.

Taking cognizance of the sad plight which befell the Milkmen due to Fields' abrupt departure for the United States Wednesday morning, PBA commissioner Rudy Salud said he would make representations with the NBA and CBA to ban Fields.

In the second game, Ginebra made it four in a row over San Miguel Beer, 114-108, and forced a tie at second place with the Beermen at 9-6.

Sonny Jaworski's layup off an intercepted pass to Hector Calma with 26 ticks left and twin charities by Dante Gonzalgo sealed the game for Ginebra.

Scores:

FIRST TIME
PUREFOODS 148 — Thirdk-

Row over spy-wife of Filipino diplomat

THE Philippines government has withdrawn the accreditation of Ambassador Romeo Fernandez as envoy to Peru, following revelations that his constant lady companion may be an agent for the KGB, the Soviet spy agency.

Foreign Undersecretary Jose D. Ingles said Fernandez has been called home on orders of Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus.

Manglapus decided to strip Fernandez of his accreditation upon learning that the envoy had left for Lima contrary to instructions given by the foreign office, Ingles said.

Shortly before leaving for China, Manglapus directed Fernandez not to proceed with the presentation of his credentials to the government of Peru because of a complaint from the National Intelligence and Coordinating Agency (Nica).

The Nica report said the 62-year-old Fernandez is married to Tatiana Yashina, a 25-year-old Chilean who is a Soviet citizen believed to have links with the KGB. The report also said the couple has a three-year-old child.

Fernandez, however, has denied the marriage, and accused the US Central Intelligence Agency of making up the charges against him and Yashina.

Fernandez met Yashina while serving as charge d'affaires at the Philippine embassy in Moscow in 1982. She was a governess assigned by the Soviet foreign ministry's Bureau of Services to the Philippine mission.

At the Senate, sources said the Commission on Appointments would scrutinize the nominations of Philippine ambassadors and embassy officials to minimize risks of appointing people who might serve as spies for foreign governments.

The CA, they said, would also double-check the backgrounds of nominees to diplomatic posts.

Ingles who testified before the CA admitted that the foreign office is incapable of checking possible links between Philippine embassy officials and foreign convert intelligence networks because of the abolition of the department's intelligence units.

Ingles later told reporters that "steps are being taken" by the foreign office to look into the case of Fernandez, whose status is currently one of a "diplomat in transit."

His case was discussed in the meeting of the Board of Foreign Service Administration (BFSa) Ingles said. The board hears and decides on administrative cases filed against foreign service personnel.

The information on Yashina reportedly came from the US embassy, prompting speculation that the exposure was the handiwork of CIA agents. Sources said it was "not unusual" for the government's intelligence arm to exchange information with other intelligence sources "depending on the subject."

Ingles said, however, it was the Nica, and not the US embassy, which told Manglapus about the security risk in the Fernandez case.

"There is no communication between the Department of Foreign Affairs and the US embassy regarding the Fernandez affair," he said.

Ingles said several cables have been sent to Fernandez in Peru asking him to come home. The last cable, reiterating the order, was dated May 9.

The cable also assured Fernandez that he would be "given every opportunity to defend himself in the administrative case that is being filed against him."

Fernandez has yet to reply to the department's instructions.

Fernandez is likely to face charges of insubordination for ignoring Manglapus' orders, as well as charges of immorality if his relationship with Yashina is found to be true.

He faces the possibility of outright dismissal from the foreign service if it can be established that he is married to Yashina since foreign service regulations require that foreign service officers should get clearance from the foreign secretary to marry a foreigner.

Asked if Fernandez will have to answer only for administrative cases before the BFSa, an official who requested anonymity said, "Do you think the Nica will be interested if it were just a case of immorality?"

Meanwhile, a ranking Soviet official denied that Tatiana Yashina is a KGB agent but confirmed that she is the legal wife of Fernandez.

"In fact, the marriage was certified and registered in Moscow and done according to our laws," Alexander Losyukov, Soviet deputy of foreign mission said.

Losyukov's statement contradicts that of Fernandez's who had claimed that Yashina, 25, was never his wife and only a good friend.

"Yashina was only 19 when she married Fernandez and she was too young to be an agent," Losyukov added.

Fernandez's alleged real wife is an Israeli who did not go with him to Moscow.

This plane flies on a car engine

By Jim Gomez

THE air transport chief has a baby. And this one flies on a Beetle engine.

Air Transport chief Victoriano Palpal-latoc, who is himself a pilot, and friend, Manuel Gonzales, have developed a light-plane that flies on a diesel engine of the ordinary Beetle Volkswagen.

Palpal-latoc said they have successfully test-flown the plane, single-seater made of locally-made fabric, steel tubes and a 55-horsepower engine salvaged from a small junk shop in Pasay City.

"We named our baby 'Labuyo' precisely because it has the characteristics of the native fowl," Palpal-latoc said. Labuyo is a wild fowl found in several Philippine provinces which can fly fast over short distances.

The two pilots' Labuyo can run up to a maximum speed of five miles per hour and fly as high as 5,000 feet. The aircraft consumes a gallon of diesel gas for every hour it spends in the air.

The air transport chief said they spent nearly P50,000 to build the craft and are now hard at work perfecting the design of the plane for possible mass-production.

"The vast potential and talent of the Filipinos have been proven again. It is constantly there for the taking, waiting to be tapped," Palpal-latoc said.

The makers of Labuyo said they made few improvements on the Beetle engine before they installed it on the lightplane which required only 300 metres of runway for take off and landing.

The Labuyo has already recorded 14 flying hours, mostly above the vast Ninoy Aquino International Airport complex, since it successfully took-off the ground several years ago, Palpal-latoc said.

"I remember 'we held our breath the first time we flew it. The engine sputtered and coughed, the body swayed from left to right, the gears latched up a

little and it went down," the ATO chief said. "We worked on and lifted our baby a few days later."

Recently, Palpal-latoc and Gonzales installed a new Beetle engine with greater horsepower on the Labuyo and the plane flew on a longer distance.

With some more improvements, the craft's



creators hope they can already perfect the plane's design and scout for investors who can put in money so the craft can be mass-produced.

The Labuyo can be used for aviation training and short-distance flights over sprawling ranches and plantations in the provinces, he said.

Country set for economic miracle

MELBOURNE, Australia: Philippine President Corason C. Aquino said here last week that the Philippines is on at the threshold of an economic revolution that will see its economy emerge as the next economic miracle in Asia before the year 2000.

In a speech read for her by Philippine Trade and Industry Secretary Jose S. Concepcion Jr., at the fourth Asian Business Conference for Human Development, President Aquino cited economic statistics showing how the Philippine economy turned around sharply after her new government took over in 1986.

President Aquino said the Philippines posted a growth rate of 5.7 per cent in its gross national product last year, a reversal of the negative GNP

growth rates of 7.2 per cent in 1984 and negative 4.2 per cent in 1985.

The 1987 GNP growth rate is one of the highest among the member-countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean).

Aquino also cited the very high growth rates in equity investments registered with the government's Board of Investments (BOI).

"After two consecutive years of decline — first by 23.1 per cent in 1985, and then by 33.1 per cent in 1986, investments grew by a significant 165 per cent in 1987 to reach some \$420 million, the highest level for the last 20 years," Aquino said.

"And for the first quarter of 1988, we posted a staggering increase of 582 per cent over the same period last year," Aquino said.

Total registered investments in January to March of 1988 reached \$261 million, or already 62 per cent of last year's total regis-

tered investment of \$420 million.

"This reflects the renewed level of confidence of both Filipino and foreign investors in our new business climate," she said.

Aquino announced that her government is currently selecting sites for one industrial estate in each of the country's 13 regions as centres for industrial development in the rural areas.

The government, she said, will develop these estates the necessary infrastructures, namely, roads, port, communications and power facilities.

Aquino said that Philippine exports increased sharply by 18 per cent last year to \$5.7 billion and exports grew by a record 33 per cent in the first quarter of 1988.

Merchandise exports, she said, recovered from a decline of 14 per cent in 1985 and a modest increase of five per cent in 1986.

Asia's only incumbent woman chief executive and head of the state attributed the remarkable

economic performance to the full restoration of democratic institutions after the dismantling of the past dictatorship and crony monopolies spawned by the deposed President Marcos.

She expressed the strong determination of her government to work towards the long-term solution of her country's problems.

Civil service exams to be held on July 31

THE Civil Service Commission will conduct career service examinations for both professional and sub-professional levels in 72 testing centres nationwide on July 31.

Applicants for the professional level must have a bachelor's degree, while those taking the sub-professional examination are required to have completed at least two years of college studies, the CSC said.

Marcos: I want to come home



Marcos loyalists demonstrate on Manila streets under the watchful eye of a Capcom trooper with a water cannon.

He said their observations are confirmed by various other experts and intelligence agencies of both the United States and the Philippines.

Marcos also pointed out that Defence Secretary Fidel V. Ramos "has repeatedly spoken of 62 per cent of the Philippines being under the influence of the communists."

he added, of foreign observers with American Secretary of State George Shultz in the Asean conference in Bali.

Marcos also cited observations of dangers facing the Philippines by US Undersecretary of State Richard Armitage, Gen. George Sullwell of Cinpac, and Dean McGregor of the University of California.

Marcos said the conclusion is not his alone. It is a conclusion,

Can a citizen be barred from entering his country?

By Omar M. Acosta

DOES the government have legal grounds to deny deposed President Marcos entry to the country? Supposing he managed to sneak in, can he be deported considering that he is a Filipino citizen?

These questions have been the centre of discussions among the citizenry as the threat of the ex-ruler's return again looms following the death of Dona Josefa E. Marcos.

The government, citing national security, has turned down repeated requests from the Marcos clan to allow the ousted president to attend the funeral of his mother, and even ordered different agencies here and abroad to block his entry.

Marcos supporters, meanwhile, criticised the "ban" as being a violation of his rights as a citizen. They added that the government has no right to bar any of its citizens from returning to his motherland.

But according to Immigration Commissioner Miriam Defensor Santiago, an expert in constitutional and international laws, if President Aquino decides to prohibit the return of the Marcoses, she would be exercising a basic and inherent right of the state under international law.

"The Philippine state has a right to continued existence, and President Aquino has the right to preserve the personality and integrity of the state, through self-defense and self-preservation," she said.

Santiago had said Marcos may come back, the country being a signatory to the International Declaration of Human Rights which respects the right of the individual to leave and return to his country.

She, however, willed with her position following President Aquino's pronouncement that she is not in favour of Marcos' return.

"The document is not a treaty or an international agreement. It is less powerful and binding than an international treaty. And it provides for a right which, in the language of international law, is a right without remedy," she said.

However, she continued, if Marcos managed to get through, then the state has absolutely no right to exclude him. Philippine law allows the exclusion only of aliens, and is silent on the exclusion of Filipino citizens.

She clarified that when she issued instructions to place the Marcos family on the watchlist, it did not mean that they were barred entry. She said being in the watchlist meant that if they arrived at any port of entry, the immigration officer shall immediately inform her and the Office of the President.

Santiago said a possible scenario in case Marcos arrives at the airport is that he would be held at the terminal while an immigration officer informs her and the President about the arrival. Later, he would be arrested for the pending charges against him in court.

Santiago said the CID will also file charges of falsification of public document for his travel documents are surely fake because his passport remains cancelled.



Super benefits for US-bound nurses

Agency specialising in the placement of Filipino CGFNS and US licensed nurses for USA signed an agreement with Healthcard Int'l providing free hospitalisation for beneficiaries of RNS hired for US hospitals.

Gulf Pacific Services and Trading Corp., with offices at Suite 603 Victoria Bldg., 429 United Nations Avenue, formalised the agreement with Healthcard International headed by Dr. Salvador Lazo.

Friony C. Fortich, Gulf Pacific president, said the contract is part of the many benefits agreed upon between Gulf Pacific and US hospitals to be given to CGFNS and US licensed nurses recruited by Gulf.

Fortich said Gulf Pacific is dealing directly with US hospitals, and this is our advantage over the others because we can grant more benefits to nurses we hired.

Fortich said among the benefits granted by Gulf Pacific are:

1. Giveaway of \$500 before departure for the USA, housing accommodations for three months;
2. Ten sets of uniforms;
3. Six (6) pairs of shoes;
4. Processing of passports of at least 3 dependents for H-4 visas;
5. NCLEX review classes;
6. Guided tour of Hongkong and meals before departure for the USA;
7. US and Philippine Agency fees;
8. Authentication of documents;
9. US air fare and US customs tax;
10. Accident insurance (100,000 pesos);
11. Cash advance of \$400 upon arrival in the USA.

Fortich also confirmed that an increasing number of Filipino CGFNS nurses are now switching their interest to work in New Jersey hospitals, "because of the excellent treatment they are getting from these medical centres and the recent upgrading of salaries and also the low cost of living."

Celeste's three loves ... and men

THREE loves and three men make up the totality of Celeste Legaspi. No, this is not the prologue to a sizzling romantic novel.

The three "loves" are her major concerns, which are like those of many "aware" women; namely, her family, her career, and her own self (not conceit; call it self-appreciation instead). And the three men are the ones who exerted the greatest influence in the making of what she is today.

It would seem unlikely that someone who has been "singing ever since I can remember," and who works on a project with missionary zeal, would still keep her family at the head of her list of priorities. But Celeste would willingly sacrifice her own needs for her family's sake. She proved that when she temporarily quit her singing career so she could devote herself to her children, who were then at the age when she felt they most needed her guidance.

Not a few people have been wondering why Celeste opted to stop her concert series. "It was no longer exciting for me. You had a motif, and then you sang songs

around that... It was always like that and I became tired of it," she explains. "I wanted to do something else."

The "something else" these days is helping to develop original Filipino musicals.

"I want to make people really want to see Filipino musicals. So her guest appearance in Gines Tan's Magisulka Ka during its first weekend at the CCP Main Theatre, is just the start of this new trend that she and a few other pioneering souls are trying to start."

Judging by the titles of the musicals that she will work in, they are attractive: Kakana Ka Na, the story of a Filipina nurse whose obsession in life is to work in the US, which is being worked on by Ryan Cayabyab and Joey Reyes; and the chronicle of a hostess' life, titled (Are you ready for this?) The Frank Diary of Anne, which is being written by Bienvenido Noreiga.

Celeste is doing another kind of spearheading with her OPM board members — crusading for the adoption of a protectionist policy for our Filipino artists.

In Australia, they call it the

"Actor's Equity." It works this way: For each foreign talent that holds a performance in our country, a fee of P2,500 is to be collected. This fee, or equity, is given to the artists' guild concerned. For example, if a ballet company performs here, the equity will be given to the dancers' guild; if it's a violinist, the equity goes to the musicians' guild; if a pop singer, then to the OPM."

Now we come to the three men. Let us take them in the order they came into Celeste's life.

The first is her father, painter Cesar Legaspi.

"I was very close to my father, and I spent a lot of time with him. He was colour blind, you see, so he'd ask me which colour blue was, etc. And he'd talk to me as I watched him paint."

The adoring daughter intimates that she used to be frustrated because she couldn't paint like her father, but happily adds that all her children do.

Then Nonoy Gallardo strolled into her world. "He was a man who didn't have to get married. He was already secure in his life. So, after we married, there was

no conflict (about "male" and "female" roles). When we had no maid, he'd help with the washing, without feeling that his male ego was insulted."

The third man is composer/arranger/musical director Ryan Cayabyab. "I learned so much about music and my own potentials from him. When we were working on my concert series, he encouraged me to try new things. He's a great teacher. He uses his mathematical mind to divide his time so he can help as many people as he can, and still compose and do arrangements."

There are also two women who have unknowingly made their contributions to the totality of Celeste: Pilita Corrales and Sylvia La Torre, both of whom she considers her role models.

"I saw Pilita perform at the Music Lounge only once, but those few minutes seemed like a mini-workshop for me, as I noted how she was always in control of the band and the audience. I even saw how she dealt with hecklers."

"I admire Sylvia La Torre for being truly Filipino in her songs and style. Her voice is perfect for



Legaspi would willingly sacrifice her own needs for her family's sake.

that. And she has such personality! Just by standing there, she can upstage anyone!"

Celeste confesses that she is quite choosy about whom she allows to get close to her. "I really know her. We know that we are not among her chosen few, but we are grateful for having been allowed to take a peek into her very private self."

And in that little peek, we learned something more about Celeste: She treats life as a continuum of development for herself and those "whom she touches."

"Whatever bad things may have happened in my life, I don't call them 'traumas,' but 'experiences' from which I can get lessons on how to improve myself," Celeste says in conclusion.

Isn't that how we should all try to be?

BUSINESS & FINANCE

New ticket will help reduce airline accounting costs

GENEVA, May 21. (Kunat): IATA member airlines have agreed to introduce a new form of automated ticket for use by carriers and travel agents, the airline organisation announced today.

The ticket, known as "automated ticket and boarding pass" (ATB) will be first introduced in North America, Western Europe and Japan in the coming months, the International Air Transport Association said.

However, it was not expected that the ticket would be in general use in the Middle East for several years, an IATA spokesman noted.

The ATB includes new features not previously seen on airline tickets.

Service

For example, it combines the ticket and the boarding pass in a single computer-printed form to simplify and improve service to passengers.

Also, the ATB allows the inclusion of a magnetic computer-readable strip on the back of the ticket, which will hold data relating to the travel and thus improve customer service.

It is also expected that the new ticket will help in reducing airline accounting costs and revenue fraud.

The ATB is the culmination of 10 years of research and development by the airline members of IATA and its partner organisations, the Air Transport Association of America (ATA) and the Association of European Airlines (AEA).

Brazil and Venezuela sign economic agreement

BRASILIA, Brazil, May 21. (AP): Brazil and Venezuela yesterday signed agreements to expand bi-lateral trade and limit dependence along their 1,600-kilometre (1,000-mile) common border.

Venezuela's Foreign Minister German Nava Carrillo met with his Brazilian counterpart Roberto De Abreu Sodre and agreed to encourage cinema co-production and improve transport between the two countries. The ministers also signed an agreement to not build within 30 metres (yards) of each side of the border in the Amazon jungle.

Action

"The accord is the outcome of the policies of the Brazilian and Venezuelan governments to begin a new dimension of bi-lateral relations that shows a real desire for concrete action and integration and adopt practical measures for projects we want to undertake," Sodre said.

Sodre said the two countries were planning to link and pave their highways in the area.

Also during Carrillo's two-day trip, Venezuela agreed to sell Brazil 5,000 barrels of diesel fuel and 10,000 barrels of petroleum.

The visit follows President Jose Sarney's trip to Venezuela earlier this year in a move designed to strengthen bi-lateral relations.

Indonesia keen to sell oil at official prices to Japan

JAKARTA, May 21. (Opecna): "Maximum efforts are to be made to sell Indonesian crude oil to the Japanese market at the official price set by the Indonesian government."

Hedco Kamio, president of the Japan Indonesia Oil Company which handles the sale of Indonesian crude in Japan, said here that given the present market conditions, it might be difficult to maintain the official price of \$17.56 which is based on that of Minas, the country's prime export crude.

"But by working hard we will be able to sell Indonesian oil on Japanese markets at official prices as required by the Indonesian government," he stressed.

Venture

According to Kamio, his company, a joint venture between Japanese companies and Pertamina, the Indonesian state oil company, sold an average of 180,000 bpd of Indonesian crudes in Japan in April and will dispose of at least 120,000 bpd this month.

Kamio, who arrived here last week, has already held meetings with Minister of Mines and Energy Ghanandjar Kartasasmita and Pertamina president Abdul Rachman Ramly.

US exports up

Dollar may fall further, says Samuelson

CALCUTTA, May 21: The Nobel-laureate American economist professor Paul A. Samuelson visualises a further fall in the value of the US dollar vis-a-vis the Japanese yen.

The exchange rate which is now about Y125 to a dollar might, according to him, settle at Y110 to a dollar by early 1989. He is in the least distressed by the decline in dollar value and appreciation of yen and DM.

"The medicine of exchange rate depreciation is a powerful penicillin which cures a patient's ailments," he observes.

Professor Samuelson was replying to questions from a panel of three Indian journalists from his study in Massachusetts over telephone. The tele-conference was organised by USIS.

Exports

US exports in physical terms, the professor points out, have of late been up. He says, "there has been a three per cent real growth of the US economy and although I am not a partisan politician, I have to say that this would look a bit like a Republican weather forecast from the standpoint of USIS."

Stronger exports may signal higher rates

US exports in physical terms, the professor points out, have of late been up. He says, "there has been a three per cent real growth of the US economy and although I am not a partisan politician, I have to say that this would look a bit like a Republican weather forecast from the standpoint of USIS."

polymetric study of bow elections are affected by the economy. "This, he feels, should be good news yet if this vigour of the US economy continued, he might have to consider this as an unfavourable factor, the Economic Times has reported.

Although US exports are physically up, the terms of trade, because of the weak dollar, continues to move against the US economy with the result there is demand for protectionism.

"In political life there is always an under-current of protectionism," he observes.

Hestingly feels that the most powerful thing that has been done or can be done to contain protectionism in the United States is to have dollar depreciation and points out that the protectionist movement in America, as can be seen from political campaigns of a couple of months ago, has actually been weakened by the success of dollar depreciation.

"I have been quite critical of president Reagan in many regards but I must applaud his courage in trying to stand up against the Congress against protectionism and even threatening to veto the legislation," he said.

The professor describes the US trade bill recently passed by the US senate "a move in the wrong direction." "The trouble with protectionism is that it is like illegal driving — at first it makes you feel very good but it cannot continue to deliver the utility."

Protectionism

Commenting sharply on protectionism, he says that by following a protectionist policy the US economy will be only protecting jobs of highly-paid US. The richer part of the labour group which must be receiving that very huge wage differential — much higher wage differential than existing in Japan and West Germany. "Is it good economics, is it good ethics to tax middle level workers to keep the richer class of labour movement happy?" he asks.

The professor observes that, unlike Milton Friedman, he has no ideological bias against protectionism. "I take a pragmatic view," he says. "If protectionism could improve on long-term basis the real average standard of American people, I would have no philosophical problem in advocating protectionism."

Professor Samuelson is not at all worried at the inroad of Japan into the US economy. "This is not a new process in the world history, at least not for the United States," he says and pointed out that from the time of World War I, America had a strong balance of payments surplus and was investing abroad.

Under President Reagan's supply-side economics, in four years from 1981 to 1985, America used up everything it invested abroad in the earlier 70 years and right now the country is the largest debtor nation of the world.

Benefits

So long as Japan behaves as a good co-partner there should be no real problem as it benefits them and it benefits America, he says. Besides, Japan has been an impeccable neighbour.

Ever since the occupation by MacArthur and the forces of democracy have been flourishing

in that country to their advantage and to the advantage of the US economy. Also adhering to modern course of conduct, he believes, is a process which is manageable.

Action

Asked what he expects of the new US President, the professor replies that he does not expect a great deal of action on the fiscal budget after the election.

However, he emphasises that the new American President without regard to which political party he represents should try to propel the nation to a stage of higher productivity which again can be achieved by capital formation, scientific know-how and incentives.

His contention is that it is necessary for the nation to bring down its balance of payments deficit not into zero equilibrium but into a less disharmonious equilibrium.

Asked if he favours reforms in stock market operations as are being discussed in different quarters of the US economy, he replies that these reforms could only be for supervision from the macro-economic point of view.

US sees no evidence of accelerating inflation

NEW YORK, May 21. (UPI): The government said this week the US trade deficit shrank to a three-year low in March, a White House panel told Congress that little can be done to curb market volatility and General Mills sold its retail units.

The US trade deficit in March shrank to \$9.75 billion, its lowest level in three years, but triggered fears among investors that stronger exports may signal higher inflation and interest rates.

In statements in Paris, where he was attending the annual ministerial meeting of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, Treasury Secretary James Baker said the government sees no evidence of accelerating inflation.

Baker rejected concern by some European finance ministers that the pace of US domestic demand is too fast.

Improvement

The March trade deficit was a greater-than-expected improvement on the February deficit of \$13.8 billion, Commerce Department figures showed.

The favourable trade figures in March were not likely to be repeated soon, analysts said, though they acknowledged that the trade picture was clearly improving. Exports gained 23 per cent in March and although imports, too, gained, the broad-based exports surge was the strongest influence on the overall figures.

In other economic developments, industrial production surged a robust 0.7 per cent in April, led by increases in manufacturing, particularly automobile production, manufacturing equipment and home appliances, the Federal Reserve Board said.

The Fed report indicated a rebound following a first quarter period of slow growth. In March, the growth was 0.2 per cent and the February performance showed no gain over January.

Pace

The brisk growth pace added to concern among some analysts that more factories may be operating at or near capacity, foreshadowing possible inflationary bottlenecks and shortages.

Inflation remained moderate at the wholesale price level, increasing 0.4 per cent in April for finished goods compared with an increase of 0.6 per cent in March and only 1.7 per cent above a year ago, the Labour Department reported.

But prices paid by manufacturers for semi-finished or raw materials rose sharply and this is bound to be reflected in the wholesale price level in the coming months, analysts said.

"Inflation looks quiet for the moment but there are some early warning signs of a mild uptick in the future," said David Wyss, economist with Data Resources Inc. in Lexington, Massachusetts.

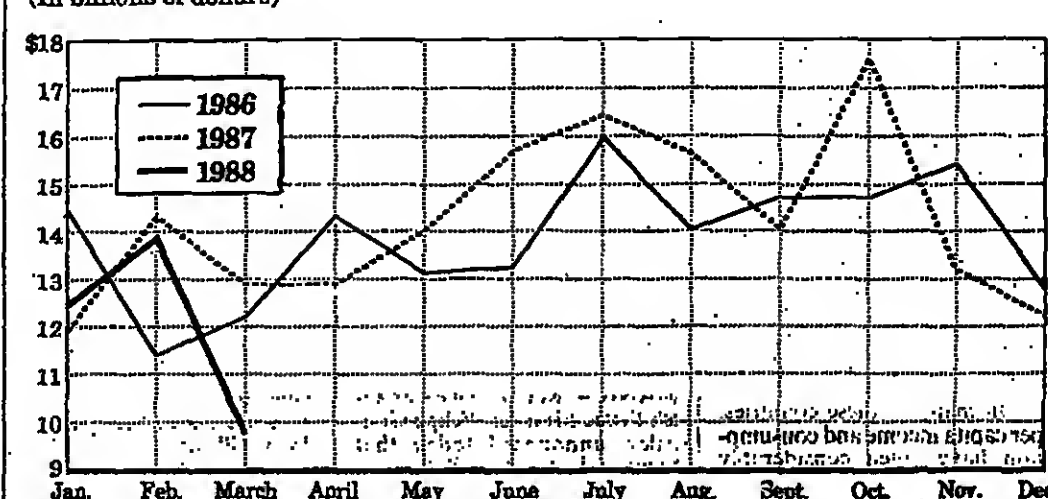
In Washington, experts warned Congress that the savings and loan industry could face collapse unless taxpayer money is used to shore up the federal agency that insures deposits of millions of Americans.

But officials said customer accounts in thrift institutions are safe.

The Federal savings and loan

Tracking the U.S. Trade Deficit

(In billions of dollars)



Note: Monthly figures for 1986 aren't adjusted for undocumented exports to Canada

Source: Commerce Department

Insurance Corp. lost \$8.6 billion last year, had \$17 billion in liabilities for 200 insolvent trusts at the end of 1987, and faces costs of \$19 billion for another 300 teetering institutions, said Frederick Wolf, the General Accounting Office's accounting and management division director.

Crash

In other government activity, House members who oversee financial markets on Thursday the presidentially appointed Gould Commission of political cowardice for saying little could be

done to curb market volatility. The remarks came at a finance subcommittee hearing into recommendations by the White House working group, headed by Treasury Undersecretary George Gould, that probed the safety and orderliness of financial markets following the October stock market crash.

"We recommended what we thought was right for the market," said Gould. "Where we feel there is substantial doubt as to whether the cure would be worse than the disease, we have not made recommendations."

Since Oct. 19, critics have blamed computer programme trading, especially a form known as Stock Index Arbitrage, for making the crash more severe. But the Gould Commission refused to single out computer trading as the culprit.

"We cannot provide an iron-clad guarantee that there will not be another Oct. 19 in our future," said Federal Reserve Board chairman Alan Greenspan, a commission member. But, he added, there is a "very small probability of a replay of last October."

Money supply growth rate jumps

UK bank lending surges

LONDON, May 21: Britain's bank lending soared and money supply grew sharply last month, fanning economists' long-term fears of inflation, according to the Wall Street Journal.

The Bank of England said bank lending climbed a seasonally adjusted £5.8 billion (\$10.8 billion) in April, up from a £4.9 billion (\$9.1 billion) rise in March and a £2.1 billion (\$4.1 billion) increase in April 1987.

Measure

A broader gauge of lending that includes building-society loans jumped £8.2 billion — well above increases of £6.8 billion March and £3.87 billion a year earlier. Building societies are UK mortgage lending associations.

The narrow measure of money supply known as M-0 rose about 0.9 per cent in April, after a 0.8 per cent increase in March, the central bank said. The money supply's annual growth rate jumped to an unadjusted 5.9 per cent, above the government's target ceiling of 5 per cent for fiscal 1989, which ends next March 31.

The lending figures were swollen somewhat by UK home buyers rushing to take advantage of mortgage-interest tax incentives scheduled to end Aug 31. And other economic indicators released on Thursday paint a more mixed picture of Britain's economic pace. But on the whole, the numbers "still support the idea of the economy growing like a weed," said Bill Martin, chief UK economist at

Boosted

Private economists here said the latest lending figures were boosted by the surge in personal home loans and by corporate borrowing. Low interest rates and uncertain equity markets are encouraging companies to borrow, these economists said.

The fast growth isn't likely to end soon. Big banks' one-half percentage point cut in base rates to 1 1/2 per cent earlier this week "will probably ensure that the next set of (lending) figures will be quite horrendous," said Mark Cliffe, an economist at London-based Nomura Research Institute.

The lending figures again illustrate the British government's acute economic-policy dilemma. Base rates have fallen three times in the past two months, partly to

stem the pound's strength in foreign-exchange markets. But rate cuts aggravate inflation. And overseas investors continue to be on sterling, despite increasing domestic signs of an overheating economy. Britain's annual inflation rate currently stands at 3.5 per cent as measured by retail prices.

Lending

In line with the bank lending data, Britain's broader money-supply figures also grew strongly last month. The figure known as M3, which includes lending by banks, rose a seasonally adjusted 1.5 per cent, compared with gains of 3.2 per cent in March and 2.1 per cent in April 1987. A money-supply figure that includes building-society deposits rose 1 per cent in April, after increases of 2.3 per cent in March and 1.5 per cent in April last year.

Other economic data released on Thursday showed Britain's industrial output advanced 1.2 per cent in March, less than expected and down from a 1.6 per cent increase a year earlier. The latest figure compares with February's revised 2.1 per cent decline, a result affected by a brief strike that month at Ford Motor Co.'s British unit.

Manufacturing production alone climbed 0.9 per cent in March and was up 4.3 per cent from March 1987. In February, manufacturing output fell 2.5 per cent from the previous month. (Unless otherwise indicated, all figures have been seasonally adjusted.)

World Bank urges Indonesia to deregulate economy further

JAKARTA, May 21. (Reuters): Indonesia must deregulate its economy further and develop a stronger financial sector to help back its drive to boost exports and end reliance on oil, the World Bank said in a report.

The bank's annual report on Indonesia said that despite steps to simplify red tape and licensing procedures, "the regulatory framework in Indonesia is still complex and confusing, especially to potential new investors."

It said the government of South-East Asia's largest nation had implemented a far-reaching programme of trade and policy reforms over the past three years to reduce protectionism and make the economy more competitive.

Drive

This drive should be extended by opening more areas for domestic and foreign private sector investment, and by making licensing and approval systems quicker.

The 230-page report recommended that the banking system should be strengthened and the capital markets developed to help support growth of industry and manufacturing in Indonesia, a country of 175 million people with large natural resources.

Indonesia, an influential member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), has edged away from dependence on oil exports since the crash in world oil prices in

1986 by encouraging the growth of manufactured exports.

Measures to liberalise trade and reduce high protective barriers to the economy have removed 539 items, or 31 per cent of the total, from licence control since 1986, the report said.

Foreign investment has doubled and non-oil exports jumped 40 per cent in the last financial year.

Reforms

The need now was to focus on restructuring the financial sector to underpin economic growth.

"The ability of manufacturing firms to grow in the future, therefore, will rest not only on physical restructuring to reorient production toward export markets, but also on financial restructuring to generate sufficient funds to undertake the required investment."

It said that "while recent financial sector reforms have led to rapid deposit growth, they have been less successful in improving the availability and cost of long-term investment funds."

The long-term objective, it added, should be the creation of an efficient financial market. It urged implementation of measures already approved to develop the infant stock exchange, but says extra steps to attract overseas funds should be taken.

Finance Minister Johannes Sumarlin has promised further measures to deregulate insurance, pensions and the banking sector.

World Business Summary

Banks told to raise loan loss reserves

TORONTO, May 21. (Reuters): Canada's federal banking regulator said on Friday Canadian banks have been ordered to raise their Third World loan loss reserves to 35 to 45 per cent of total Third World loans, from the current 30 to 40 per cent. The superintendent of financial institutions has also added four countries to the list of 34 nations whose loan repayments are in some doubt, said Deputy Superintendent Suzanne Labarge. The four are Congo, Mozambique, Niger and Sierra Leone, she told Reuters in a telephone interview. "We felt the situation in the Third World countries hadn't improved and we wanted to be sure the bank's exposure was reduced," Labarge said. The six largest Canadian banks had a total of \$19.4 billion outstanding in loans as of last December to the 34 countries on last year's list of doubtful debtors, according to industry figures. Labarge said the banks were told at the end of April that they must raise their loan loss reserves — the amounts set aside to cushion them against possible losses — by the end of the year. "So we're seeing it happening in bits and pieces over the next three quarters," she said. Most Canadian banks declined to comment on the new rules, but Ian Dale at Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce said, "it's been the bank's practice to be the best provisioned against losses and we intend to keep that position." Canadian Imperial Bank at the end of 1987 had 41 per cent set aside in loan loss reserves against doubtful Third World debt, the highest percentage of the six largest Canadian banks.

US steel makers want trade barriers maintained

WASHINGTON, May 21. (AP): The prosperity that import quotas helped bring to American steel companies is undermining the fledgling campaign to maintain the trade barriers, according to industry officials. Quotas, or voluntary restraint agreements negotiated by President Ronald Reagan's administration with 31 countries are due to expire in September 1989. Extending the quota programme is high on the agenda at the American Iron and Steel Institute's annual conference, which began in earnest on Wednesday in Washington. "It's a fragile recovery," Aisi president Milton Deener said of the industry's health. "I see troubling signs among some government officials of a lessened sense of urgency about the need to cope with imports and the trade deficit in general." Importers argue that extended quotas will hurt the economy with higher prices and steel shortages. Domestic opposition also is forming in steel-consuming states enduring rising prices and tight supplies. Some mills are operating virtually flat out and are turning away orders. Prices, which dropped 15 per cent after 1981, rose 4 per cent to 5 per cent last year and could do the same this year, analysts say.

The Aisi estimates industry profits of \$1 billion for 1987, after \$12 billion losses from 1982 to 1986.

The Reagan administration's quota programme, enhanced by currency exchange rates that make imported goods more expensive, helped sustain financially weak US steelmakers while they wrote off unprofitable plants and modernised the remainder.

Japanese 'spent millions to attack trade bill'

WASHINGTON, May 21. (Reuters): Speakers of the House on Friday said the Japanese have invested \$100 million in a lobbying campaign against a new US trade bill, urged President Reagan again to allow the measure to become law. "I think it may be the first time in our history that a foreign country has involved itself so deeply and intimately in the American legislative process," Wright said on Wednesday in an interview with Reuters and Visnews, the international television news agency. The Texas Democrat suggested Reagan could allow the bill, which is strongly opposed by America's trading partners, to become law without his signature as a "face saving device." The bill was passed in the House of Representatives by a margin in excess of the two-thirds majority needed to override a veto, but the Senate vote fell short of this margin. Wright said the Japanese government and business had mounted a \$100-million campaign to try to defeat the bill, which mandates countermeasures against nations which fail to open their markets to American goods. Reagan opposes the trade bill's provision requiring firms to give workers 60 days' notice of plant closings. Democrats believe that Republicans will suffer election-year damage from Reagan's position. Wright said many of Vice-President George Bush's friends and supporters had been "implored the President to reconsider" his promise to veto the bill.

Ausimont chemical firm considers sale of business

WALTHAM, Mass., May 21. (Reuters): Ausimont NV, a specialty chemical maker largely owned by Montedison SPA of Italy, said on Friday it has engaged an investment bank to study the possible sale of all or major parts of its business. The announcement drove Ausimont's shares up sharply to \$31.50, a gain of 17 per cent for the day on the New York Stock Exchange. Although Ausimont said in a statement that no decisions had been taken other than to engage Morgan Stanley Group Inc. traders, said the stock rose because some analysts estimate that the company's assets were worth about \$35 a share. "People think it's worth 35 to 40 per cent," said one trader. "We've heard values up to 50," said another. Dean Witter analyst Mark Guiley said he valued the company at \$35 a share. "It's very likely the company will be broken up," said Guiley. "It's a sufficiently diversified company that you're not going to find one party that would want it all." Guiley said Ausimont has a teflon materials business which would appeal to several US and foreign chemical companies. It also has a modular carpet tiles business. Ausimont is 74.3 per cent owned by Montedison.

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Alshall stock price indices

Share prices turn mixed

ALSHALL index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 36.89 points with an increase of 0.12 points over last week's average. Alshall index for Gulf shareholding companies reached 46.91 points with a decrease of 0.04 points for the same period.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 4.16 million shares at a daily average of 2.08 million shares (two days of trading only) with a decrease of 26 per cent from the previous week daily average of 2.83 million shares. Gulf traded shares reached 12.22 million shares at a daily average of 6.11 million shares with an increase of 56.7 per cent over last week daily average of 3.90 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti trades shares was KD 1.159 million at a daily average of KD 0.580 million, a decrease of 17 per cent from last week daily average of KD 0.698 million. The value of Gulf traded shares was KD 0.307 million at a daily average of KD 0.154 million increase of 54 per cent over last week daily average of KD 0.100 million.

The performance of this week is not very indicative as it covered only two days of activity, although it was in line with the prevailing trend of this year except for the substantial increase in the volume and trading value of Gulf shares.

For Kuwaiti shares the banking sector, although declined for the second week, is still having the lead of total traded shares at 32 per cent. The Gulf bank had 46 per cent of this sector, Burgan Bank 20 per cent and Alahli Bank 13 per cent.

The industrial sector came second at 29.9 per cent which is unusual for this sector. Kuwaiti Pharmaceutical came first at 72 per cent of this sector trading volume, followed by Refrigeration industry at 28 per cent. This increase in the volume of trading for this sector is caused by some rumours about an improvement in the marketing prospects of Kuwaiti Pharmaceutical Company and in the company's rights and manufacturing conditions.

The services sector came third at 18.5 per cent of total trading of which Mobile Telephone System had 97 per cent and Public Warehouseing Co. 3 per cent.

For Gulf shares the other companies sector had the lead at 93 per cent, with Ras Al-Khaima White Cement 76 per cent of total trading of Gulf shares market, followed by Fujairah Cement at 6 per cent, then both of Coast Investment and Development and Bahrain and Middle East bank at 3 per cent.

Kuwait shareholding companies index

| | Wednesday 18/05/88 | Wednesday 11/05/88 | Change points |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Banking Sector | | | |
| Kuwait National Bank | 88.27 | 87.25 | 1.01 |
| The Gulf Bank | 29.00 | 28.59 | 0.41 |
| The Commercial Bank | 21.08 | 21.25 | -0.17 |
| Al Ahli Bank | 27.39 | 27.39 | 0.00 |
| Bank of Kuwait & M. East | 27.19 | 27.19 | 0.00 |
| Kuwait R. Estate Bank | 28.97 | 28.97 | 0.00 |
| Burgan Bank | 23.78 | 23.78 | 0.00 |
| Kuwait Finance House | 61.23 | 61.23 | 0.00 |
| Services Sector | | | |
| Investment Sector | 39.09 | 38.86 | 0.23 |
| Kuwait Investment Co. | 30.49 | 30.49 | 0.00 |
| Kuwait Int. Invest. Co. | 27.49 | 27.15 | 0.34 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|-------|
| Inv. Pearl Kuwait | 84.13 | 84.13 | 0.00 |
| IFA | 76.47 | 76.47 | 0.00 |
| Commercial Facilities | 120.00 | 121.25 | -1.25 |
| Sector Index | 41.01 | 40.99 | -0.02 |
| Insurance Sector | | | |
| Kuwait Insurance Co. | 37.51 | 37.51 | 0.00 |
| Gulf Insurance Co. | 28.46 | 28.46 | 0.00 |
| Al Ahlia Insurance Co. | 45.98 | 45.98 | 0.00 |
| Warba Insurance Co. | 78.18 | 78.18 | 0.00 |
| Sector Index | 36.71 | 36.71 | 0.00 |
| Real Estate Sector | | | |
| Kuwait Real Estate | 28.04 | 28.80 | -0.76 |
| United Realty | 12.73 | 12.96 | -0.22 |
| National Real Estate | 40.21 | 40.21 | 0.00 |
| Sector Index | 21.23 | 21.58 | -0.35 |
| Industrial Sector | | | |
| Kuwait Cement Co. | 16.22 | 16.22 | 0.00 |
| Refrigeration Indust. | 92.01 | 86.78 | 5.23 |
| Gulf Cables | 102.84 | 102.84 | 0.00 |
| Kuwait Pharmaceutical | 90.67 | 83.56 | 7.11 |
| Sector Index | 34.27 | 33.61 | 0.66 |
| Services Sector | | | |
| Kuwait Computer Co. | 203.04 | 203.04 | 0.00 |
| Kuwait Cinema Co. | 9.04 | 9.04 | 0.00 |
| Public Warehouseing Co. | 69.70 | 68.69 | -1.01 |
| Kuwait Comm. Markets Co. | 39.95 | 39.95 | 0.00 |
| Mobile Telephone Syst. | 352.38 | 347.38 | 5.00 |
| Sector Index | 63.36 | 63.15 | -0.21 |
| Food Sector | | | |
| Livestock Trad. & Transp. | 44.75 | 44.75 | 0.00 |
| United Fisheries | 10.34 | 10.34 | 0.00 |
| Kuwait United Poultry | 87.28 | 87.28 | 0.00 |
| Kuwait Food Co. | 65.52 | 65.52 | 0.00 |
| Sector Index | 41.10 | 41.10 | 0.00 |
| Overall Index | 36.89 | 36.78 | 0.12 |

Gulf shareholding companies index

| | Wednesday 18/05/88 | Wednesday 11/05/88 | Change points |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Financial Companies | | | |
| First Gulf Bank | 163.16 | 163.16 | 0.00 |
| United Gulf Bank | 34.48 | 34.48 | 0.00 |
| Bahrain Internat. Bank | 91.03 | 91.03 | 0.00 |
| Bahrain M. East Bank | 79.73 | 80.68 | -0.95 |
| Gulf Investments Co. | 61.03 | 61.03 | 0.00 |
| Coast Inv. & Dev. Co. | 74.29 | 74.29 | 0.00 |
| Bahrain Kuwait Inv. Gro. | 65.71 | 65.71 | 0.00 |
| Arabian Gen. Inv. (Shuaa) | 56.06 | 56.06 | 0.00 |
| Sector Index | 61.84 | 61.71 | -0.08 |
| Other Companies | | | |
| Gulf Cement (fully paid) | 12.40 | 12.83 | -0.43 |
| Sharjah Cement | 10.50 | 10.50 | 0.00 |
| Fujairah Cement | 10.53 | 9.87 | 0.66 |
| Ras Al Khaima W. Cement | 28.33 | 28.33 | 0.00 |
| Ras Al Khaima W. Cement | 18.21 | 18.21 | 0.00 |
| Med. Medical Projects | 18.02 | 18.02 | 0.00 |
| Sector Index | 18.02 | 18.02 | 0.00 |
| Base Period 31/12/1983. | 46.91 | 46.95 | -0.04 |

Provided by Alshall Economic Consultants

Kuwait dinar deposit rates ease

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates eased in active trading yesterday, the first day after the five-day Eid Al-Fitr holiday, as government salary payments entered the system.

Liquidity had been tight because of three three-month treasury bill issues of 100 million dinars each since May 4. Saturday's issue was allotted at an average price of 98.476 per cent for an average yield of 6.321 per cent.

Overnight funds traded early in the day at last Sunday's 12 per cent but were later offered at five per cent with no bids. Tomorrow's business opened at six per cent and spiked at five and 5-1/4 per cent, but offers fell to 3-1/2 per cent levels by mid-morning.

Dealers expected rates to ease further when 200 million dinars of three-month bills expire on May 25.

One-week traded at 5-3/4 per cent, one-month at 6-1/2 per cent and six-month at 6-5/8 per cent. By the close of business fixed-period rates were up to 3/8 per cent below last Sunday's levels at 6-5/8, 3/8 per cent for the one through six-month maturities and 6-3/4, 1/4 per cent for the six through 12-month.

Bretton Woods hotel to be sold

BRETTON WOODS, New Hampshire, May 21. (AP) The Mount Washington Hotel, where the foundation of the post-World War II global economy was laid, is being sold to become part of a year-round resort, hotel owners said yesterday.

When world financial leaders from 44 nations met at the hotel in 1944, it was so isolated that there was little else to do but work, participants said.

The conference led to the formation of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and also produced agreements on the fixed currency exchange rates that strongly shaped international commerce until they were abandoned in the 1970s.

Spain offers \$70m in loans to Philippines

MANILA, May 21. (AP) Spanish Prime Minister, Felipe Gonzalez, announced today that Spain had offered the Philippines \$70 million in loans, and promised to encourage Spanish businessmen to invest in its economy.

Gonzalez made the announcement in a news conference at the presidential palace summarizing the highlights of his four-day official visit to this island nation which Madrid ruled for over 350 years.

The Philippines, on its part, gave Spain the assurance that Manila would participate in an economic trade fair in Seville in 1992, Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez said Spain and the Philippines exchanged views about hosting America's bases in their territories, but only on general terms.

Spanish Foreign Affairs Minister, Francisco Fernandez Ordonez, said yesterday the Spanish delegation did not advise the Philippines to follow Spain's example of banning the storage of nuclear weapons in its territory.

Spain's offer of \$70 million loan this year will help finance the Philippine government's

education and health programmes. He added that part of the loan will also fund small- and medium-scale private Filipino businesses.

Contracts

An offset investment programme was introduced in Saudi Arabia to ensure that the Kingdom benefit more substantially from the large contracts it was rewarding abroad.

Major foreign suppliers are expected to offset the cost to the Saudi government by investing 35 per cent of the contract value in joint ventures in the Kingdom. This policy was first put into practice with agreement on the \$3.5 billion Peace Shield early warning radar package.

The main contractor, Boeing, on behalf of itself and its US subcontractors came up with nine potential projects with a combined investment of \$700 million, five of which are under implementation. A second major offset agreement is being concluded with the UK for 35 per cent of the value of a \$7.6 billion contract to supply Tornados military aircraft to the Kingdom. At least 60 per cent of the foreign half of a venture should be made through the provision of working capital, with the balance of the investment used as the joint venture deems appropriate.

(To be continued)

KUWAIT

| BANK SECTOR | P.CLS | LT | HIGH | LOW | VOL | TRADE |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| NATIONAL BANK | 0.870 | 0.870 | 0.870 | 0.860 | 115000 | 5 |
| GULF BANK | 0.350 | 0.350 | 0.350 | 0.345 | 60000 | 5 |
| COMMERCIAL BK | 0.242 | 0.246 | 0.246 | 0.244 | 420000 | 11 |
| ANLI BANK | 0.285 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| B.K.N.E. | 0.310 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| K.R.E.S. | 0.365 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| BURGAN BANK | 0.240 | 0.240 | 0.240 | 0.238 | 480000 | 9 |
| K.F. HOUSE | 0.405 | 0.410 | 0.415 | 0.410 | 340000 | 15 |
| INVESTMENT SECTOR | | | | | | |
| KMT INV. CO. | 0.166 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| K.F.T.C.I.C. | 0.210 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| K.I.I.C. | 0.160 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| COM.FACILITIES | 0.480 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ARLHAN INV. | 0.000 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| T.F.A. | 0.104 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| INV. PEARL KMT | 0.106 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| INSURANCE SECTOR | | | | | | |
| KMT INSURANCE | 0.690 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| GULF INSURANCE | 0.370 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ARLHAN INS. CO. | 0.520 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| WARBA INS. CO. | 0.455 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| REAL ESTATE SECTOR | | | | | | |
| KMT REAL ESTATE | 0.220 | 0.220 | 0.220 | 0.200 | 120000 | 2 |
| UNIK REAL ESTATE | 0.114 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| WAT REAL ESTATE | 0.202 | 0.200 | 0.202 | 0.200 | 140000 | 5 |
| SALMAN R.E. | 0.075 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| KMT PROJECTS | 0.081 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| KMT R.E.I.COM | 0.000 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| INDUSTRY SECTOR | | | | | | |
| KMT IND. CO. | 0.510 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| KMT M.P. IND. | 0.280 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| KMT CEMENT CO. | 0.238 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| REF. IND. CO. | 0.440 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| W.A.M.T. CO. | 0.000 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| GULF CABLE | 1.000 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| K.W.H.IND. CO. | 0.204 | 0.210 | 0.214 | 0.210 | 80000 | 3 |
| CON.MARINE | 0.350 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| K.S.N.IND. CO. | 0.042 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SERVICES SECTOR | | | | | | |
| OVERLAND TRANS | 0.081 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| K.N.C. CO. | 0.190 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| KMT HOTELS CO. | 0.174 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| P. WAREHOUSING | 0.138 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CON.MKT. CMPC. | 0.020 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MOBILE TELE. | 0.370 | 0.370 | 0.370 | 0.370 | 10000 | 1 |
| KMT COMPUTER | 0.188 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| FOOD SECTOR | | | | | | |
| LIVESTOCK T.T. | 0.220 | 0.218 | 0.220 | 0.218 | 40000 | 2 |
| UNITED FISHERIES | 0.152 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| UNITED PASTRY | 0.238 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| KMT FOODS | 0.285 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| AGRI. FOOD PRO. | 0.150 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NON-KIT SECTOR | | | | | | |
| B.H.N. INTER. BK | 0.066 | 0.066 | 0.066 | 0.066 | 200000 | 4 |
| B.H.N.J. EAST. BK | 0.062 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| UNITED GULF BK | 0.000 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| COAST INVEST. | 0.078 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A.G. INV. CORP. | 0.037 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| FIRST GULF BK | 0.620 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| B.K.I.G. | 0.085 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE

| COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET | P.CLS | LT | NIGN | LOW | VOL | TRADE |
|---|-------|-----|------|-----|-----|-------|
| PEARL INV. CO. | 0.098 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| GULF INV. CO. | 0.041 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| GULF INTL. INV. | 0.009 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ARAB INV. CO. | 0.055 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SHARJAH INV. | 0.000 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| GULF UNION INV. | 0.055 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| INDUSTRIAL SECTOR | | | | | | |
| B-GULF MEDICAL | 0.016 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| C-R.K. WHITE CMNT | 0.025 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| D-AJMAN CENT | 0.007 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| E-FUJAIRAH CENT | 0.008 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| F-SHARJAH CENT | 0.010 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| G-GULF CEMENT | 0.014 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| H-UMM RATHAIN | 0.019 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

| SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 21/5/88 | | | |
|--|-------------------|------------|---------|
| B.No. | Ship Name | Agent | Tel No. |
| 2 | Golden Wonder | M. Bahar | 2433881 |
| 3 | Corredale Express | GH&Q | 4747815 |
| 4 | Alyamamah | KSA | 4843150 |
| 5 | Agia Sofia | GH&Q | 4747815 |
| 6 | Dresden | Sicamco | 2439973 |
| 11 | Barge Al Jaber | Alghamim | 4842988 |
| 12 | Tug Gulf Express | Alghamim | 4842988 |
| 14 | Sparkle IV | Maraft Int | 2465645 |
| FT43 | Gui Yang | M. Bahar | 2433881 |
| 15 | Ivan Koroteev | Alarshed | 2422026 |
| 16 | Serifos | ISA | 2441860 |
| 17 | Iris Everett | ISA | 2441860 |
| SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT | | | |
| ETA | Ship Name | Agent | Tel No. |
| 21/5 | Gulf Liberty | GH & Q | 4747815 |
| 21/5 | Mulbera | KMMC | 2419814 |
| SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT | | | |
| B.No. | Ship Name | Agent | Tel No. |
| 2 | Arhon | RMS | 2423642 |
| 3 | Uco XVII | S. Shaheen | --- |
| SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT | | | |
| ETA | Ship Name | Agent | Tel No. |
| 19/5 | Barzan | UASC | 4843150 |
| 19/5 | Al Haba | UASC | 4843150 |
| 19/5 | Trade Fair | M.A. Bahar | 2433881 |
| 20/5 | Abu Basma | RMS | 2423642 |
| 21/5 | YS Prosperity | Alarshed | 2423642 |
| 23/5 | Kanika IV | Alghamim | 4842988 |
| 24/5 | Sparkle Sun | GH&Q | 4747815 |
| 25/5 | Al Noor | GH&Q | 4747815 |
| 25/5 | Al Manakha | UASC | 4843150 |
| 30/5 | Rhein Express | MA Bahar | 2433881 |
| 31/5 | Tor Bay | KMMC | 2419814 |
| 4/6 | Ionian Express | Alghamim | 4842988 |

COMPILED BY: Alghamim Barber Shipping Co., P.O. Box 21708, Alghamim Industries Bldg, Airport Rd., Shuwaikh, Tal. 4842988/4843988 Ext 3614/3628

Downward pressure on steel wages eases

WASHINGTON, May 21. (AP) American steel company executives and industry analysts say downward pressure on wages has eased, but other production cost savings remain leading priorities.

Statements made at the American Iron and Steel Institute's annual conference in Washington could hearten union members who retreated on wages, benefits and cherished work rules in two rounds of bargaining since 1982.

Contracts at the major producers came up for renegotiation beginning next year. Labour costs peaked for blue-collar steel workers in 1982 at \$26.29 per hour and declined to an average of \$23.70 last year, according to the Aisi.

Plant closings, automation and work rule changes have combined with employee pay conces-

sions to help cut labour costs from \$262 per ton of steel shipped in 1982 to \$160 per ton last year. That shift lessened the impact of wages on production costs.

"Also they have had fairly fearsome increases in wages abroad," securities analyst Peter Marcus of PaineWebber Inc. said on Thursday. "In Korea last year, they had a 23 per cent wage increase and the Korean won increased on the order of 10 per cent."

Analyst James Rudolph of Buckingham research group said that with no signs of rampant inflation, wage increases would not necessarily hurt US steel companies, which are enjoying a recovery of uncertain duration after five years of devastating losses.

Blue-collar employment fell from about 190,000 in 1982 to 121,000 in 1987, according to the trade group.

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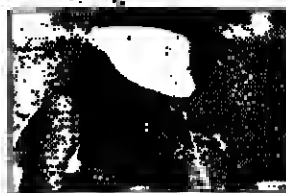
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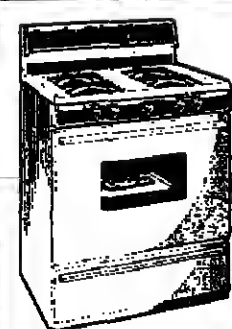
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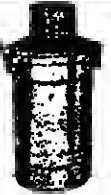
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Tongson and Tecuala triumph

FLOR TONGSON and Marilyn Tecuala played brilliantly on Friday to clinch the men's and women's titles respectively at the PBAK Marathon Bowling Tournament held at the 300 Club Silver Tower.

Tongson displayed his superb right straight ball style to finish on the top with a total of 1,669 points and an average of 185.4 per game.

In the first three games, Tongson scored 181, 173 and 202. In the next three games he got 166, 164 and 242 while in the last three he scored 204, 176 and 161.

Joe Chanwit took the 1st runner-up spot with a total of 1,648 while Waleed Al Zinki finished as 2nd runner-up.

In the women's division, Tecuala played an excellent game to snatch the top spot with a total of 971 pinfalls. The 1st runner-up, Tonette Anes, was way back with 939 points. Grace Pangindan took the third place with a total of 935.

The tournament was sponsored by Boodai Aviation and organised by the Philippine Bowlers Association in Kuwait (PBAK).

Results

Men's division (nine games):
Champion — Flor Tongson, Philippines, 1,669; 1st runner-up — Joe Chanwit, Thailand, 1,648; 2nd runner-up — Waleed Al Zinki, Kuwait, 1,627; 3rd runner-up — Madz Garcia, Philippines, 1,616; 4th runner-up — Archie Nanta, Philippines, 1,611; 5th runner-up — Carl Baginda, Philippines, 1,606; 6th runner-up — Tony Lacson, Philippines, 1,599; 7th runner-up — Arthur Reyes, Philippines, 1,578; 8th runner-up — Jimmy Tadana, Philippines, 1,576; High Game (1 game) — Milo Coronado, Philippines, 251.

Women's Division (six games):
Champion — Marilyn Tecuala, Philippines, 971; 1st runner-up — Tonette Anes, Philippines, 939; 2nd runner-up — Grace Pangindan, Philippines, 935; 3rd runner-up — Lynne Reyes, Philippines, 929; 4th runner-up — Eva Sabay, Philippines, 928; 5th runner-up — Gloria Estandarte, Philippines, 911; 6th runner-up — Mercy Laborer, Philippines, 905; High game (1 game) — Vangie Simoy, Philippines, 211.

ATHLETICS LEAVE YANKEES TRAILING

Pirates cut Braves down to size

PITTSBURGH, May 21. (AP) — Mike Diaz drove in three runs with his first two hits of the season and Mike Dunne won his first game since opening day as Pittsburgh snapped a five-game losing streak with a 10-3 victory over Atlanta last night.

Junior Ortiz also drove in three runs for the Pirates, who scored three runs each in the first, third and fourth innings off Braves starter Tom Glavine, 1-6, who has given up 24 runs in his last nine innings.

Reds 7, Cubs 2
Paul O'Neill drove in three runs and Mario Soto won the 100th game of his career as the Cincinnati Reds defeated the Chicago Cubs 7-2.

Soto, 3-2, allowed five hits, three of them by first baseman Mark Grace. He struck out six and walked one in this third complete game of the season.

Astros 5, Cardinals 3
Billy Hatcher went 5-for-5,

including a tie-breaking RBI single in the ninth inning, and unbeaten Bob Knepper won his sixth game as the Houston Astros beat the St. Louis Cardinals 5-3 for their fourth straight victory.

Loser Scott Terry, 2-2, walked pinch-hitter Terry Puhl to open the ninth with the score tied 2-2. After Gerald Yung's sacrifice moved Puhl to second, Todd Worrell relieved Terry and gave up a run-scoring single to Halchier on his first pitch. Kevin Bass and Rafael Ramirez added two-run RBI singles to make it 5-2.

Padres 4, Phillies 3
Roberto Alomar drove in the winning run with a two-out single in the bottom of the ninth inning as the San Diego Padres snapped a four-game losing streak with a 4-3 win over the Philadelphia Phillies.

Mike Schmidt hit his 535th career homer for the Phillies, moving him past Jimmie Fox into the No. 8 spot on the all-time list.

Giants 11, Expos 2
Chris Speier's sixth-inning Grand Slam, one of four San Francisco home runs, led the Giants to an 11-2 victory over the Montreal Expos.

Candy Maldonado and Will Clark homered earlier in support of Mike Lacoss, 3-3, who pitched seven-hit ball for seven innings. Bob Melvin hit his fifth homer of the season in the seventh.

Mets 5, Dodgers 2
Howard Johnson homered and Mookie Wilson singled in two runs as the New York Mets extended their winning streak to five games with a 5-2 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Sid Fernandez, 2-3, allowed six hits, struck out six and walked one over 6 1-3 innings before leaving with stiffness in his elbow. It was the longest outing of the year for left-hander, whom the Mets obtained from the Dod-

gers in a 1983 trade.

Athletics 11, Yankees 3
Carney Lansford, the Major League's leading hitter, had four singles. Dave Parker homered and Ron Hassey drove in three runs as the Oakland Athletics beat the New York Yankees 11-3 last night in the first meeting of American League division leaders.

Dave Henderson got three hits, including a pair of doubles, and Glenn Hubbard also had three hits in the 14-hit attack. Bob Welch improved to 7-2 as the Athletics, with the best record in baseball at 29-11, won for the 14th time in their last 16 road games.

Angels 4, Red Sox 2
Buchi Wynegar lined a tie-breaking double after failing to sacrifice in the 10th inning, lifting California over Boston and Roger Clemens.

Chico Walker led off the 10th with a walk, just the second

issued by Clemens, 6-2. Wynegar fouled off a bunt attempt and then lined a double to right as Walker scored easily. Mark McLemore's run-scoring single made it 4-2.

Clemens, who threw three-hit shutouts at Kansas City and Seattle last week and had not allowed a run for 19 innings, allowed eight hits and struck out nine. Clemens, 6-2, walked only two while raising his Major League-leading strikeout total to 102.

Results

| American League | National League |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Oakland 11 | New York 3 |
| Seattle 14 | Chicago 2 |
| San Francisco 11 | Baltimore 3 |
| Los Angeles 5 | Cleveland 4 |
| California 4 | Toronto 3 |
| Philadelphia 3 | Milwaukee 2 |
| Minnesota 2 | Boston 2 |
| Pittsburgh 7 | Atlanta 2 |
| Cincinnati 4 | St. Louis 3 |
| Houston 5 | San Diego 3 |
| San Diego 5 | Philadelphia 3 |
| New York 5 | Los Angeles 3 |
| San Francisco 11 | Montreal 2 |

Davis inspires Northants' win

LONDON, May 21. (Reuters) — Fast bowler Winston Davis, who was overlooked for the current West Indies tour of England, helped Northamptonshire to snatch a six-run county championship victory after they followed on against Warwickshire.

Davis captured four for 44, giving him a match haul of 10 for 185, as Warwickshire were routed for 112 in pursuit of 119 to win at Northampton yesterday.

The St Vincent paceman's performance, supported by new ball partner Alan Walker with three for 40, completed a stunning turnaround by Northants, who followed on 245 behind and were all out for 363 before lunch on the third and last day.

Warwickshire made a wretched start to what seemed a modest task and slumped to 51 for five before Asif Din and Dermot Reeve checked the slide in a stand of 47. But Ugandan-born Asif's dismissal for 48 marked the start of a further collapse in which the last five wickets tumbled for 14.

Middlesex beat Leicestershire by eight wickets to take over as championship leaders from Worcestershire, who lost by nine

wickets to Somerset.

After howling out Leicestershire for 265 in their second innings at Leicester, Middlesex reached their target of 51 for the loss of two wickets, to maintain their 100 per cent winning record in the competition after four games.

Paceman Neil Williams took four for 60 in Leicestershire's second innings for match figures of nine for 106.

Somerset, crushed by an innings and 214 runs at the hands of Worcestershire 12 days ago, emphatically took revenge and also ended their opponents' sequence of three championship victories in succession.

On a Worcester pitch of unreliable bounce, the home county crumbled from their overnight 52 for three — still 35 behind — to 119 all out. Adrian Jones snapped up two wickets in 12 balls and fellow paceman Matthew Cleal completed the destruction with three for 16 on his championship debut.

Somerset lost captain Peter Roebuck in scoring the 33 runs needed for their first championship win of the season.

Title holders Nottinghamshire



Davis: 10 for 185

suffered a fourth consecutive championship defeat, but their West Indian fast bowler Franklyn Stephenson gave Gloucestershire a jolt before they won by six wickets at Trent Bridge.

Gloucestershire resumed at 31 for one, needing only 47 more, but lost three wickets on the way to success as Stephenson fired out Ian Butcher and Kevin Curran, while Kevin Cooper sent back Andy Stovold.

Results

At Trent Bridge: Gloucestershire beat

Nottinghamshire by six wickets. Gloucestershire 254 in 71.2 overs and 80 for four (F. Stephenson three for 36). Nottinghamshire 91 in 31.1 overs and 524. Gloucestershire 23 points, Nottinghamshire 4.

At Worcester: Somerset beat Worcestershire by nine wickets. Worcestershire 240 in 91.3 overs and 119 (M. Cleal three for 16, A. Jones three for 28). Somerset 327 in 87.3 overs and 33 for one. Somerset 24 points, Worcestershire 6.

At Leicester: Middlesex beat Leicestershire by eight wickets. Leicestershire 114 in 52.5 overs and 265 (J. Whitaker 55, M. Williams four for 60). Middlesex 329 in 92 overs and 52 for two. Middlesex 34 points, Leicestershire 4.

At Northampton: Northamptonshire beat Warwickshire by six runs. Warwickshire 415 in 143.2 overs and 112 (W. Davis four for 44, R. Williams three for nine). Northamptonshire 170 in 70.5 overs and 363 (D. Ripley 47, W. Davis 43, P. Smith three for 49). Northamptonshire 19 points, Warwickshire 7.

At Bournemouth: Hampshire v Glamorgan match drawn. Hampshire 217 in 82.2 overs and 259 for two declared (R. Smith 87 not out). Glamorgan 276 in 97.2 overs and 177 for eight (R. Mann four for 70). Glamorgan 7 points, Hampshire 6.

At Cambridge: Essex beat Cambridge University by 135 runs. Essex 299 for eight declared and 145 for one declared (J. Stephenson 79 not out, D. East 55). Cambridge University 188 and 121 (J. Childs four for 25, K. Post four for 38).

At Oxford: Oxford University v Kent match drawn. Kent 539 for three declared and 188 for two declared (S. Marsh 100 not out). Oxford University 271 (G. Reynolds 69, M. Kilborn 51, M. Harman five for 55) and 28 for three.

Ainge helps Celtics edge past Hawks

ATLANTA, May 21. (AP) — Danny Ainge scored key baskets throughout the second half and Boston survived some late floor mistakes to trim Atlanta Hawks 102-100 last night and avoid its earliest exit from the NBA playoffs in five years.

The Celtics squared the best-of-seven Eastern Conference semifinal series at 3-3 and set up a seventh game in the Boston Garden tomorrow.

The Celtics, who have reached the NBA finals in each of the last four seasons, held a 101-98 lead with a minute to play, but gave Atlanta chances.

Ainge was called for walking with 52 seconds left and Ainge then hit one of two free throws with 33 seconds left for a 102-98 lead.

Dominique Wilkins completed his 35-point night with a running one-hander with 29 seconds to play, ending the scoring.

Kuwait outclass Taiwan

FLORENCE, Italy, May 21. (AP) — Kuwait, Italy, and Sweden all scored first-round victories in the men's Olympic volleyball qualifying tournament here yesterday.

The winner of the six-team round-robin tournament, which concludes Wednesday, will be awarded a berth in the Olympic

volleyball competition in Seoul. Kuwait beat Taiwan, 15-7, 15-10, 15-8, while Italy only took 46 minutes to roll over Algeria 15-2, 15-4, 15-3.

But the most exciting battle of the round came during the evening match when Sweden rallied from two sets down to beat Canada 12-15, 8-15, 15-7, 15-12, 15-5.

Lots of attractive prizes to be WON!!!

Don't forget to send in your entries



PHOTO COMPETITION

For more details get your application forms at:

- All 35 Commercial Bank branches
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- Al Alamiyah Electronics Co.
- Abdul-Aziz & Partners Co. Ltd.
- Studio 1

Selected entries will be shown at Kuwait Regency Palace from 15-31st October 1988. Last date for entry 31st July 1988.

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First Prize
Honda CRX Car + two airline tickets to London

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Arabic and English application forms and regulations will be available from Arab Times offices, Shuwailh, Messilah Beach Hotel and Al Seyafe Trading and Marine Services Co. Salem Al Mubarak St. Salmiyah from Saturday afternoon, May 21st.

The Seyassah and Arab Times newspapers, in cooperation with Messilah Beach Hotel are organising

KUWAIT'S 2ND BI-ANNUAL OFFSHORE POWERBOAT RACE

to be held on Friday, June 3rd, 1988.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Boats must be at least 18 ft in length.
- Engines must be outboard. If a single engine boat is used, an additional 10hp engine is advised. A maximum of two engines are allowed.
- Crew must have a minimum of two persons. All must be at least 18 years of age.
- Date June 3, 1988.
- The boat must be registered with the port authority of Kuwait, or if the boat is from outside Kuwait, with the authority for its port of origin.

Safety Requirements

- All participants must have the following equipment:
- A helmet and protective glasses.
- Lifejackets (inflatable life jackets not permitted).
- A marine compass (advanced electronic navigation equipment is prohibited).
- Anchor suitable for the size of the boat and a 25 metre (minimum) rope.
- At least three red safety flares and a fire extinguisher.
- Boats must be adequately supplied with fuel sufficient to cover the race distance.
- Any battery or fuel tank leakages must be well-checked and repaired before the race.
- Each boat should carry either a telephone or a 2 way radio system.

Failure to comply with the above regulations and safety requirements will result in disqualification. Scrutineering will be held prior to the race, and competitors must display their safety equipment on the deck of the boat.

Bulletins detailing further requirements/information will be issued from time to time.

- Participation is open to all Gulf Citizens and residents who have lived in the Gulf for a minimum of six months.
- Last date for accepting entries is May 30, 1988.

Entry fee per person KD 15.000



The 61.1 Nautical mile race will start from the beach opposite the Messilah Beach Hotel.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Border hurt

LONDON, May 21. (Reuters): Australian cricket captain Allan Border was taken to hospital for X-rays after being struck on the head batting for Essex in the county championship today.

French title

NANTES, France, May 21. (Reuters): Monaco were able to celebrate winning the French Soccer League title last night without kicking a ball. They were assured of the crown for the first time for six years when nearest rivals and defending champions Bordeaux lost 1-0 at Nantes.

Italian GP

IMOLA, Italy, May 21. (Reuters): World 500cc motorcycle champion Wayne Gardner, riding with a heavily-bandaged injured left foot, headed today's final practice for tomorrow's Italian Grand Prix.

1,000 Guineas

DUBLIN, May 21. (Reuters): Unbeaten filly Trusted Partner swept to an impressive victory in the Irish 1,000 Guineas today to give Ireland its first homegrown triumph in the classic for fillies for six years.

European Open

GENEVA, May 21. (Reuters): Seve Bledisloe, American Lori McNeil gained the final of the European Open women's tennis tournament the easy way when Mariana Perez-Roldan retired injured from their semifinal today.

Brazil meet

SAO PAULO, May 21. (Reuters): Britain's Steve Ovett, American Willie Banks and local hero Joaquim Cruz were some of the top names among a field of over 150 foreign athletes entered in tomorrow's third international Brazil's athletics meeting.

Italian Open

COMO, Italy, May 21. (Reuters): David Whelan of Britain, Argentine Vicente Fernandez and Sweden's Ove Selberg completed six-below-par 63s when the first round of the Italian Open Golf Championship resumed today in hot sunshine.

China qualify

PERTH, Australia, May 21. (AP): China defeated Canada 4-3 today to grab the final qualifying position in the Seoul Olympic Games water polo tournament in September.

Golf tournament

FORT WORTH, Texas, May 21. (Reuters): Lanny Wadkins, Scott Hoch and Clarence Rose were tied for the second-round lead in the \$750,000 Colonial National Invitation golf tournament with scores of five-under-par 135 yesterday.

Sweden to face US in World Team Cup final

DUESSELDORF, West Germany, May 21. (Reuters): Czechoslovakia's Tomas Smid gave world number two Stefan Edberg a timely claycourt tennis lesson today but failed to prevent Sweden reaching the final of the World Team Cup.

The Swedes beat Czechoslovakia 2-1 to record their third group victory. In tomorrow's final they will meet the United States, last year's beaten finalists.

Smid, playing his first singles match of the competition, brought his guile and experience to bear as he defeated the previously unbeaten Edberg 6-4 7-6 (7-4).

But Anders Jarryd won the second singles, defeating Milan Srejber 6-3 7-5, and then Edberg got his revenge as he and Jarryd beat Smid and Srejber 6-2 6-4 in the doubles.

China lose another title

NIIGATA, Japan, May 21. (Reuters): The once-mighty Chinese table tennis squad lost a third title at the Asian Table Tennis Championships today, coming only third in the women's doubles behind South Korea and Taiwan.

The Chinese pair Chen Longcan and Wei Qingguang won the men's doubles, beating the Taiwan twins Chih Chin-Shui and Chih Chin-Long 21-14 21-11.

Suffered

Their comrades, world champion Jiang Jialiang and Xu Zengca, suffered a humiliating defeat in the quarterfinals, losing to the Taiwan pair 21-19 21-14.

It was a particularly worrying defeat for China because Jiang and Xu had been tentatively chosen to represent China in the men's doubles in the Seoul Olympics in September.

BOWLERS DOMINATE ONE-DAY MATCH

England brush aside W. Indies again

LEEDS, England, May 21. (AP): England maintained its domination over the West Indies in one-day cricket with a 47-run victory at Headingley today, its eighth in the last nine limited-over confrontations between the two teams.

After scoring a modest 186 for eight off its 55 overs, England ripped through the pride of the West Indies batting to bowl the tourists out for 139 with eight overs to spare and capture the Texaco Trophy.

England's triumph came two days after a six-wicket victory at Edgbaston.

Restricting

The West Indies bowlers gave their side a golden chance to atone for Thursday's defeat by restricting England to less than 3-4 an over.

Openers Graham Gooch and Chris Broad plundered 17 runs from the first three overs, before Malcolm Marshall and debutant Ian Bishop slowed the run rate with some fiery fast bowling.

The England batsmen had to concentrate on protecting their stumps and bodies instead of getting runs and 20 came off the next 12 overs as the bowlers began to dominate.

Broad was caught behind by wicket-keeper Jeff Dujon off Curtley Ambrose for 13, but

Gooch and captain Mike Gatting stayed together until the score reached 64 for one.

Suddenly the wickets began to tumble as Gatting was caught by Richards off Marshall for 18 and the same bowler trapped Monty Lynch — on his 30th birthday — for two.

Richards introduced the gentle medium pace of Phil Simmons, who removed Allan Lamb for two and England was struggling at 83 for four when Gooch was caught by Gordon Greenidge off Simmons for 32.

Derek Pringle and Paul Downton bolstered the innings with a fifth wicket stand of 66, but the wickets began to tumble again after Pringle was caught behind off Courtney Walsh for 39.

England managed to use up all the 55 overs but left the West Indies with a comparatively easy target.

It was a victory chance thrown away as the English seam bowlers, Philip DeFreitas, Gladstone Small, Graham Dilley and Pringle took advantage of a helpful pitch to wreck the West Indies batting.

DeFreitas removed opener Simmons for one. Dilley had Richie Richardson caught by wicket-keeper Downton for the same score. Gus Logie was caught off Dilley for eight.



Broad ducks under a bouncer from Walsh. (Reuters wirephoto)

Dujon was bowled by Pringle for 12 and Marshall became another Downton victim for one, this time off Gooch.

The only batsmen to show any sign of resistance were opener

Greenidge, who made 21 before he was caught by Downton off Small, and captain Viv Richards, who scored 31 before he became Small's second victim.

The final match is at Lord's on

Monday.

Scoreboard

ENGLAND

G. Gooch c Greenidge b Simmons 32
C. Broad c Dujon b Ambrose 13
M. Gattling c Richards b Marshall 18
M. Lynch lbw b Marshall 2
A. Lamb c Dujon b Simmons 2
D. Pringle c Dujon b Walsh 39
P. Downton c Dujon b Bishop 30
J. Embury c Ambrose b Bishop 8
P. DeFreitas not out 15
G. Small not out 7
Extras (b-3 lb-1, w-3, nb-13) 20
Total (for eight wickets) 186
Fall of wickets: 1-29 2-44 3-72 4-80 5-83 6-149 7-154 8-169
Did not bat: G. Dilley
Bowling: Walsh 11-0-39-1, Ambrose 7-2-19-1, Marshall 9-1-29-2, Bishop 11-1-32-2, Simmons 9-2-30-2, Richards 8-0-33-0.

WEST INDIES

G. Greenidge c Downton b Small 21
P. Simmons b DeFreitas 1
R. Richardson c Downton b Dilley 1
V. Richards b Small 31
G. Logie c Lynch b Dilley 8
C. Hooper lbw b Pringle 12
P. Dujon b Pringle 12
M. Marshall c Downton b Gooch 1
C. Ambrose c Downton b Pringle 23
C. Walsh b Embury 18
I. Bishop not out 9
Extras (b-3 w-3 nb-3) 9
Total (46.3 overs) 139
Fall of wickets: 1-22 2-11 3-38 4-67 5-67 6-87 7-84 8-104 9-132
Bowling: Dilley 11-6-45-2, DeFreitas 9-2-29-1, Small 9-2-11-2, Pringle 11-0-30-3, Gooch 3-0-12-1, Embury 3-3-0-9-1.

England beat Scotland

LONDON, May 21. (Reuters): Peter Beardsley put England in good heart for the European Championship finals next month by scoring the only goal of a disappointing Rous Cup match against Scotland at Wembley today.

The Liverpool striker made up for the disappointment of being on the losing side in the FA Cup final against Wimbledon a week ago by scoring in the 11th minute after an exchange of passes with Gary Lineker.

Traditional

England, who dominated a match devoid of much of the passion which is a traditional ingredient of clashes between the two sides, would have won more convincingly but for Scottish goalkeeper Jim Leighton.

He made a number of acrobatic saves, three of them during a period when England were rampant towards the end of the first half.

Scotland, who managed only seven goals in eight matches in an abortive attempt to qualify for

the European Championships were a pale shadow of some of their great sides of the past.

They were devoid of inspiration in attack. Ally McCoist and Mo Johnston, two of the feared strikers in the Scottish League, making little or no impression on a solid England defence.

The battle for control of midfield was won early on by Bryan Robson. Neil Webb and Trevor Steven and their performance will have delighted manager Bobby Robson as he draws up his battle plans for West Germany next month.

But he will have learned little from the central defensive pairing of Tony Adams, under some pressure after recent undistinguished international performances, and Dave Watson as they were put under little or no pressure by the lightweight Scottish attack.

The Scots, spurred on by their contingent of fans, made the early running, but they flattered only to deceive.

N. Ireland win Cup qualifier

BELFAST, May 21. (Reuters): Northern Ireland made a triumphant start to their World Cup soccer campaign today, beating Malta 3-0 in the opening European qualifier.

They crashed home three goals in 11 minutes midway through the first half of the Group Six

match but failed to punish their weak opponents further.

The outcome was a welcome boost for Northern Ireland, winners of only one of their previous 13 games. It was their biggest success since October, 1984, when they beat Israel by the same margin.

Filipino games start

THE 7th annual Filipino Sports Festival, sponsored by the Kapangasinan ng Filipino sa Kuwait, with the theme "Batakan ng Buto 88" got under way at the Kheifan stadium this week.

The Filipino games started on May 17 with the opening ceremonies at the Kheifan stadium. The affair was attended by about 2,000 spectators and highlighted by 40 teams parading in their colourful uniforms with their team muses.

Gene Balatayo, Kapilku president delivered the welcome address while Father Jess Guero gave a short invocation at the beginning of the programme hosted by Bojo Borbajo and George Santos, executive vice-president of Kapilku.

Miss Josephine Generosa, a staff nurse from Al Adan Hospital, who represented Fisher Electronics was chosen as the Miss Palarong Filipino 1988.

Marathon races in the 3, 5, and 10 kilometre events were held immediately after the programme.

Raffle draws were also held and gift certificates given away. More draws will be held all throughout the festivities.

The organisers have asked for

individuals who have a knowledge about basketball and are interested in officiating basketball games to attend a clinic with Bong Melencio at 6 pm today at the Mabuhay Restaurant.

Competitions in the lawn tennis, which started on May 17, are being held at the Qadisiya tennis courts.

The rest of the events will commence on May 27.

Dance:
8:30-10:30 Al Farez vs. Al Ghanim, 10:00-11:30 Kahayan Restaurant vs. Kuwait Regency, 1:30-3:00 Pinyo Restaurant vs. AGAP, 3:00-4:30 AGAP vs. R.L.C.
Dance:
8:30-9:30 AGAP vs. R.L.C.

Table tennis:
7:30-11:30 Men's Table 1 Al Ghanim Freight vs. Al Ghanim Industries, 7:30-11:30 Women's Table 2 Arabid vs. Al Adan-Filip, 1:30-5:30 Men's Table 1 Arabid vs. AGAP, 1:30-5:30 Men's Table 2 K.P.T.C. vs. R.L.C.

Snooker:
7:00-8:30 am Sultan vs. Mabuhay Restaurant (Group A), 8:30-10:00 K.P.B.C. vs. Wood Group (Group B), 10:00-11:30 Arabid vs. Al Sabah (Group A), 11:30-1:00 pm Kuwait Regency vs. R.L.C. (Group B), 1:00-2:30 AGAP vs. K.P.T.C. (Group A), 2:30-4:00 Pinyo Restaurant vs. Kuwait Dry (Group B), 4:30-5:30 Al Ghanim vs. CAPE (Group A).

Silver Towers — 300 Club
Women's Bowling:
8:30-12:00 Lanes 1 & 2 Mabuhay Restaurant vs. Crown Trading, Lanes 3 & 4 Al Ghanim vs. Oriental — Diplomats.

Chatrier seeks rule change to revolutionise tennis

LONDON, May 21. (Reuters): The clean ace, the most spectacular single shot in tennis, could be killed off by the first radical rule change in over 100 years.

Philippe Chatrier, President of the International Tennis Federation (ITF), wants to cut the number of serves from two to one, denying big-hitting gamblers the luxury of a second service.

Artistry

By doing so, Chatrier hopes to put the accent back on artistry rather than raw power.

"The ace is absolutely contrary to the spirit of the game," Chatrier told Reuters in his role of romantic visionary rather than ITF president.

"Tennis is a conversation, one player trying to out-manoeuvre the other. The ace is brute force, it ends the conversation ... no

dialogue. It's not what the game is meant to be."

Though Chatrier does not expect his views to meet with universal approval — Ivan Lendl, Boris Becker and Pat Cash are three leading opponents — the Frenchman's passionate idealism will attract widespread support.

John McEnroe, who has long been a critic of the power game, made a similar suggestion in 1985 after South African born Kevin Curren blasted him off court in straight sets with a barrage of aces in the Wimbledon quarter-finals.

Wales lose

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, May 21. (AP): Provincial team Wellington inflicted a humiliating 38-22 Rugby Union defeat on Wales at Athletic Park today.

Seeded

The number of seeded women's doubles pair, China's Dai Lili and Jiao Zhimin, lost to the sixth seeded Japanese couple Kyoko Uchiyama Katsuko Tominaga 21-19 21-13 in the quarterfinals.

In the singles preliminary rounds today, fourth seeded Kim Ki-Taek of South Korea was beaten by Hong Kong's Liu Fuk Man 23-21 11-21 21-17 24-22, but there were no upsets in the women's singles early rounds.

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